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# The First Settlement of the Upper Murray

1835 to 1845.

with

**A Short Account of over Two Hundred Runs.**

1835 to 1880.

By

**DR. ARTHUR ANDREWS.**

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## PREFACE.

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In the compilation of the following pages, the author has drawn largely on Government and other published records. The task could not have been completed without the assistance of numerous correspondents, to whom he wishes to render his grateful thanks. For the meaning of many native words and names, he is indebted to vocabularies prepared by Mr. J. F. H. Mitchell, of Ravenswood, Victoria, and Mr. J. J. Baylis, late of Wagga Wagga. He also wishes to record his obligation to those who have, by their support, assisted in the publication.

Sydney, December, 1920.



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## INTRODUCTION.

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When alluding to the "Upper Murray" writers generally include the whole of the watershed east of its confluence with the Goulburn river. In the following pages, however, it is only intended to deal with the portion east of the junction of the Ovens River with the main stream. Practically, our remarks must at times refer to more distant parts, but apply more especially to the area comprised in the counties of Hume, Goulburn and Selwyn, on the north, and Bogong and Benambra on the south of the river.

A reference to the map will show that this area is roughly pear shaped, having a width of nearly 140 miles from the mouth of the Ovens on the west, to the top of Kosciusko on the east, and about 130 miles in length from the highest point of the Great Dividing Range south of Omeo, to the northern boundary of the county of Goulburn—a little over half way between the Murray and Murrumbidgee rivers.

The area is about 11,000 square miles, and its position on the slopes of the greatest of Australian mountain chains, with its elevation above sea-level, ensures for the most part, a bracing climate, with an equable rainfall.

The western border stretches on to the great inland plains, at a height approximately of 300 feet above the sea, while a large portion of the east and south is well above the lower limit of winter snow, and is only available for stock during the summer months.

The rainfall varies from an average of 20ins in the west to more than double that amount on the east and south, rendering the latter portion almost immune from the periodical droughts which inflict inland Australia. Indeed the higher regions are the regular summer refuge of large numbers of sheep and cattle from the arid western plains.

In times of drought in the interior, many a western squatter has had reason to value this district in his extremity; though at the same time, he was making the fortune of the more favourably situated hillman.







BONTHERAMBO HOMESTEAD, 1838.



# The First Settlement of the Upper Murray.

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## CHAPTER I.

The history of the settlement of the Upper Murray carries us back to the early decades of the last century—to the years when Sir Thomas Brisbane held the position of Governor of New South Wales, and from his seat of government in Sydney, ruled over practically half the continent of Australia.

His jurisdiction extended from Cape York on the north, to South Cape in latitude 43.39 s., and inland to the 135 degree of east longitude. Tasmania was a military dependency of the Mother Colony, while New Zealand was supposed to be controlled "as an island off the coast."

Thus practically all the country now occupied by New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, the Northern Territory and Queensland formed one province. Settlement was confined to the east coast for about 120 miles north and south of Sydney, but extended inland to Bathurst and Goulburn, west of the Blue Mountains.

As early as 1802, an attempt had been made to form a settlement at Western Port, on the south of Victoria, but without success, and within a few years most of the extensive coast line of Australia had been visited by various expeditions, but no definite settlements established.

Though the Colony was first formed as an outlet for, and place of safekeeping convicts, free-settlers, attracted by the prospects attached to "Green fields far away," had also arrived. Many of the military officers and sol-

diers, whose duties brought them to the country, had obtained grants of land, and settled down to enjoy the sunny clime, to which their fortunes had led them.

In June, 1813, Wentworth, Lawson and Blaxland succeeded in forcing a passage through the rugged defiles, and over the lofty summits of the Blue Mountains, and opened up a road to the fertile western slopes and magnificent plains which occupy so much of the interior.

The love of exploration and restlessness in narrow quarters, which has always been a characteristic of the British race, soon led the younger of the early settlers to examine and occupy much of the country west of the Mountains, which till then had only been traversed by a few scattered tribes of aboriginals. Already reports were circulated of well-watered country, and vast unoccupied plains towards the setting sun, which stimulated the more adventurous spirits to further excursions in the hope of proving the truth of the stories told by the native inhabitants.

Among the most prominent of these adventurers, we find Hamilton Hume, a son of Commissary General A. H. Hume, who had as early as 1814, when only 17 years of age, proved his bushmanship by exploring the country round Berrima, and two years later, discovering Lake Bathurst and the Goulburn Plains. He had also taken a party over the rough country to Port Jervis, and on another trip travelled westerly as far as the Murrumbidgee. This name is a corruption of "Morumbeeja"—a "flood" or "big one water," and hence may have arisen the legend of an inland sea current among them.

Charles Huon, speaking of one of his journeys, related how he travelled from Manaro in 1837, under native guidance, towards the Upper Murray in search of this inland sea. They crossed the divide between the upper Murrumbidgee and the Murray, and struck the latter at what is now known as Welaregang. He had some thought of settling there, but did not carry out his intentions.

About the middle of 1824, Hume was requested by the Governor, Sir Thomas Brisbane, to form a party and undertake a journey with the view of reaching the shores of Western Port and discovering the nature of the country intervening.



Hume being but 27 years of age, and having only his bush reputation to recommend him, some of the officials in Sydney thought that it would be wise and even necessary that someone accustomed to take observations of latitude and longitude should accompany him. The choice fell upon Capt. William Hilton Hovell, a mariner, 38 years of age, but with no previous experience of travel in the bush or the difficulties of exploration in country where everything had to be carried with the party. Three servants were assigned to each, whose names have been preserved in the journal of the explorers. They were Claude Bosswa, Henry Angel, James Fitzpatrick, Thomas Boyd, William Bollard, and Thomas Smith.

Boyd is mentioned in the explorer's journal as proving very energetic and helpful, and especially brave at the crossing of the rivers met with. To him is given the credit of being the first white man to cross the Murray, though from statements made by Hume in later years, it would appear that he himself, accompanied by Boyd, carried the line across to assist in ferrying their belongings over. This they had undoubtedly done together at the crossing of the Murrumbidgee, earlier in the trip.

Boyd visited Albury on the occasion of the opening of the railway to the border, in 1881, and again in 1883, when at the age of 85, he was present at the banquet held to celebrate the junction of the railways of the two great colonies of New South Wales and Victoria. This junction took place within a few hundred yards of the spot where the river was first discovered. Boyd was then the only survivor of the expedition, but appeared to have a clear recollection of many of the events of the journey. He was introduced to the governors and officials present and, after an inquiry into his circumstances, was granted a pension of £1 per week by each colony. It is said that owing to an oversight of an official, no record was made in one colony, and that he therefore did not receive the full amount promised. He died in 1887.

James Fitzpatrick, in after years, took up the Cucumbie, Chenumbla, or Cucumla run, between Cootamundra and Gundagai, and ultimately became a wealthy man. In his later years he bought the Glenlee estate, near Campbelltown, and died there in the 86th year of his age. He always took the part of Hume in the controversies of

the late "tiffies," between that explorer and Hovell, and said that all the hands except Boswell and Hovell revered him.

William Bollard was for some years employed in managing Berry Jerry station, on the Murrumbidgee, and later kept an hotel at Pieton.

Henry Angel, soon after the exploration, settled on a small farm near Wollongong. He resided there till 1844, when he removed his family to Uardry Station, near Hay, which he had formed in conjunction with a man named Ray, in 1841. He remained at Uardry till 1861, when he took up his residence in Wagga Wagga, dying there at the great age of 91.

At the time the expedition was arranged, Hume was residing on his farm near Lake George, and there commenced his preparations. From the outset he met with delays and difficulties, caused by some of the officials in Sydney, who were certainly unsympathetic with, if not opposed to, the expedition. The necessary equipment was not forthcoming, as might reasonably have been expected, seeing that the journey was being undertaken at the request of the Governor, and ultimately Hume was compelled to part with some of his farm implements to provide the things essential to its successful completion. In addition, after their return, the authorities refused to pay the amount stipulated for the hire of bullocks, etc., and Hume had great difficulty in obtaining adequate reward for the three servants assigned to him personally. It was not till several years had passed that he himself received a grant of land of 1200 acres as some recompense; but even this he was compelled to part with to meet some of the expense of the trip.

In spite of these initial difficulties, the expedition left its base at Lake George on October 17th, 1824. Two days later they reached the Murrumbidgee at Marjirrigong, and finding it in flood were detained till the 22nd; then crossing they endeavoured to follow down the stream, but met with considerable difficulty in places where the ranges approached closely to its banks. They were compelled to leave their heavy baggage and vehicles.

They travelled past the present site of Gundagai, after which, finding the country less rugged, they took a more southerly course, following as nearly as possible a line a little west of south, towards their goal.



## CHAPTER II.

The journal of the expedition, as published by A. Hill, of George Street, Sydney, in 1831, shows that their course continued somewhat west of south, through a lightly timbered country interspersed with small treeless plains. The whole surface was clothed with a dense crop of kangaroo grass, four or more feet in height, providing a mass of fodder, but scantily grazed by the various members of the marsupial family. Practically the whole of the animals seen belonged to that genus, except the native dog. They also record that birds of many kinds were plentiful, and they saw a few iguanas and snakes.

The explorers reached the district we are considering on November 12th, and would appear to have crossed the Billabong, somewhere in the neighbourhood of Carabobala on the 13th. The "Journal" says: "The day throughout oppressively sultry. They travel first west and then south-west in all 17 miles: the first thirteen through a fine open country, (here and there intersected by little creeks, or interspersed with ponds) of even a somewhat superior character to that over which they travelled the previous afternoon." At the end of this stage of their journey, "they pass between two low hills, grassy, covered with trees, lying in a line with and almost contiguous to the southern extremity of a hilly range, extending four miles in length, in a direction north and south. Here they come into sight of a mountain bearing S. by W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  W., distant about four miles, which from its peculiar appearance they name Battery Mountain (Tabletop)."

On the 14th, while giving the animals a much required rest, the explorers themselves ascended Mt. Battery, and were greatly impressed by the extensive view.

On the 15th, they travel 15 miles in a direction S.  $25^{\circ}$  W., passing several creeks, and camped in the neighbourhood of the present Albury racecourse.

Tuesday, November 16.—Soon after sunrise they recommence their journey and having proceeded  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles S. (the land gradually sloping as they advanced) arrive

suddenly on the banks of a fine river. This they named "The Hume."

In later years it was conclusively proved that Hume himself was the first to discover the river. He describes it as, "not less than 80 yards in width, apparently of considerable depth, the current about three miles an hour, the water for so considerable a current clear."

Hume named the river after his father, but not many years passed before it was better known as "The Murray,"—a name bestowed on the lower reaches of the stream, by Sturt in 1829. Sturt travelled down the Murrumbidgee, and when he passed its junction with the Hume, he did not recognise it as such, and named the stream "The Murray," in honour of Sir George Murray, the head of the Colonial Department.

The explorers do not mention any native name for the stream when discovered, but Sir Thomas Mitchell, a few years later, records that it was known as the "Millewah" above the Ovens junction (from "mill," an eye or star, and "wah," startling or large.)

It is interesting to contrast the present appearance of the country adjacent to the river with that presented to the explorers but ninety years ago. They note that the river and lagoons were heavily fringed with reeds, giving shelter to countless wildfowl. The spaces between the lagoons and river consisted "partly of swamps and unsound ground, which even when dry, although passable by man are impassable or at least unsafe for cattle. In general, they are thickly wooded. The trees, consisting chiefly of blue gum, generally of large growth, are overgrown with vines of various descriptions; and the fern, the peppermint, the flax plant and currajong flourish here in abundance. The peppermint plant (which they had not seen in any other part of the colony) seems to surpass both in odour and taste, the species which is generally produced in our gardens." From the flax plants the natives, as they afterwards discovered, make their fishing lines and nets for carrying their travelling gear and provisions. Birds were abundant everywhere, and special mention is made of the musical "bell bird."

The spot where Hume discovered the river is well-known to the inhabitants of Albury. Hume marked a



tree "Hume River" (see Townsend's original plan of the township) to distinguish the spot. This was unfortunately destroyed by fire owing to the carelessness of some camping teamsters early in the "forties," and the stump disappeared through the encroachment of the river on its northern bank a few years later. Another tree marked by Hovell, still stands, though much decayed. The lettering "Hovell, Novr. 17/24," has lately been copied in brass on a suitable tablet and fixed at the foot of the tree by the Albury Municipal Council for the instruction of future generations. For historical accuracy, it is necessary to point out that Hovell inscribed November 17th, when the "Journal" of the explorers clearly shows that the discovery took place on the 16th, and further, that the party was not within eight miles of the spot on the 17th. Whether the mistake was made when the inscription was first cut, or when Hovell recut it in 1857, cannot now be decided.

In 1858, a public subscription was made in the district and a marble monument erected to commemorate the discovery and record the name of the leader of the party. It bears the following inscription:—

**THIS MONUMENT**  
 was erected by the  
**Inhabitants of the**  
**Hume River**  
**(District)**  
 In honor of  
**HAMILTON HUME, ESQ..**  
 To Commemorate  
**his Discovery of this River**  
 on the 17th November,  
 1824.

Some offence was caused by the work being executed in the United States, though supplied by a Melbourne firm. A wag also wrote to the local paper, asking the amount of the contributions made by "the crawfish and other inhabitants" of the river, and this led to the insertion of the word "district" as shown in brackets.

In after years, on the formation of the Albury Botanical Gardens, the monument was removed thither for greater security. It will be noted that the same error is made in the date of discovery. May we not charitably hope that the controversies and disputes, which arose regarding the conduct of various members of the expedition being quite

forgotten, steps will be taken to supplement this monument by some record of the names of all who participated in this important journey.

The discovery being made in the late spring, the river was high and the explorers were unable to find a crossing. They travelled about seven miles down stream and camped at the foot of what is known as "Dight's Hill," and to the natives as "Jingera." On the following day, (the 17th) Hume, Hovell and two men travelled about eight miles further down the river, but finding it became both wider and deeper, they returned to their camp of the night before. Hume, when visiting the late Mr. John Dight, at Bungowannah Station, in 1844, pointed out to him a tree which he had marked to show the furthest west that they reached at this time. This tree also was a victim of a flood, and falling into the lagoon on the bank of which it stood, all trace was soon lost.

On the 18th, they resumed their journey up stream and passing the spot where they first saw the river, went on and camped in the bend now known as "Doctor's Point."

On the 19th, after much trouble from the numerous lagoons, they finally reached a spot six miles further east, at the end of the range behind the present "Hawksview" Station.

Here they found the river to be only about forty yards wide, and concluding that they had passed the junction with some large tributary coming in from the south, decided to attempt the crossing on the following day.

On the 20th, they succeeded, with little difficulty, and turning westerly, travelled about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles before camping for the night. On November 21st, after marching another  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles they reached another river, the Mitta Mitta, as wide and with as swift a current as the Hume, but not so deep. This they crossed by noon, and after extricating themselves from a series of lagoons, traversed the low hills south-westerly, and in between four and five miles reached still another river. (The Little River: the "Maranatheran" of the natives). Here they shot two native companions, and noted a number of native fires, but do not mention having seen any aborigines themselves. They camped there that night.



Next morning (Nov. 22nd) they were fortunate enough to find a huge tree lying across the river, which, with a rope stretched from bank to bank, afforded them an easy means of passing the stream. They advanced about five miles S.W., between two ranges, apparently along the Yackandandah Creek, and rested during the heat of the day. On resuming their march, they travelled the same course about  $10\frac{1}{2}$  miles, and camped on what is now known as "Osborne's Flat."

On November 23rd they travel twelve miles, passing a little west of Hillsborough Village site, and camped in the neighbourhood of Mt. Stanley. On the 24th, following the same direction, they passed several ranges and reached the Ovens river, close to the junction with the Whorouley Creek.

They name the river "The Ovens," after Major Ovens, a late Secretary of the Governor, Sir Thomas Brisbane.

It was known to the natives at that part as "The Bundalong." Thence they took a straight course over the King River valley, and ultimately reached the neighbourhood of Geelong (Iramoo Downs).

Returning, they travelled a somewhat more direct course, which brought them over the site of Euroa, whence they travelled straight to the point at which they had crossed the Ovens on the outward journey. Recrossing the stream, they followed their own tracks and reached the Hume again on January 3, 1825.

On January 4th, they followed the river up about a mile and crossed opposite the mouth of the Bowna or Battery Mt. Creek. Thence taking a north-easterly course, they again reached the Murrumbidgee, and on January 17th re-crossed it at the spot they had first passed on their outward course.

Thus a journey of nearly 1000 miles, through unknown country, with none of the advantages of present day travel, was accomplished in the short space of fifteen weeks, without the loss of a single man: surely a great tribute to the skill of the leaders. They were greatly favoured by the weather, and record that rain fell but once throughout the journey.

On the return of the explorers to Sydney, their discoveries were communicated to the Governor, and portions of their journal published, exciting great interest among all classes of colonists.

No sooner was the existence of such an immense area of fertile country made known, than steps were taken to commence its occupation. Foremost among the first to push out into what may be called "The Promised Land," were the younger members of those families already settled west of the Blue Mountains.

We find Goulburn becoming the meeting place for many parties looking forward to settling on the great levels of the Murrumbidgee and Murray. They mostly followed nearly the track of the explorers till they reached what they considered suitable sites for settlement.

At this time the area we are considering was only known as the "Murrumbidgee"—no official district having been formed—and was considered outside the bounds, and beyond the sphere of police protection.

Settlement was slowly spreading over the highlands of Manaro (variously spelt Monera, Moneroo, Manaroo, Moniera and Manaro) when circumstances arising in the older settled parts of the Colony gave great impetus to the search for new pastures, and had considerable influence over the settlement and fortunes of the western country.



### CHAPTER III.

In the year 1825, an extensive land grant was made in favour of a group of English speculators, who formed what is still well-known as the Australian Agricultural or A.A. Coy., with a capital of one million pounds.

The area granted was chiefly in the neighbourhood of Newcastle, with headquarters at Port Stephens, and in after years led to an unsuccessful claim being made by the company to the "sole right of coal-mining in Australia."

When shortly after an agent arrived in the Colony with (it was reported) no less than £1,000,000 to invest in stock, a perfect mania took possession of the colonists, especially those who were actual stockholders. Such was the infatuation that settlers sacrificed the work of years in the hope of gaining not only a competence, but a fortune. The Rev. David Mackenzie (one of the first owners of Kergunyah run), in his book, "Ten Years in Australia," thus writes of this time and a few years earlier:

"Sheep, cattle and horses rapidly changed hands; settlers mortgaged their homes and borrowed money, often at ten per cent., to invest in sheep at £2 to £2/10/- per head. In 1835-6-7, emigrants, with capital, arrived by almost every ship. Sheep advanced in price till in 1837, ewes sold in Sydney at £3 to £3/5/- per head. The following paragraph, from a Sydney paper, dated May, 1837, will prove that what the colonists most needed was a cargo of 'straight-jackets,' and places in a lunatic asylum:—

'Isaac Simmons and Co., sold yesterday the undermentioned flocks of sheep, viz., 500 aged wethers for £700; 250 ewes, four years old with lambs, at 60/, or £750; 175, 5 years old, at 45/., £395/15/-; 800, four years old ewes at £2 £1600. Total, £3445/15/-.'

"The only apology that can be offered for the buyers is that the sale took place when the moon was at the full—a period which was no doubt purposely fixed upon by the cunning sellers."

Such abnormal prices for stock naturally greatly encouraged breeding, and difficulty was soon found in the older districts in providing sufficient pasturage. Nature also about 1835 began to take a hand in matters. The first few seasons after the road was discovered over the Blue Mountains had been very favourable, but now they became drier. None of the settlers appreciated the necessity or thought of attempting to provide for the storage of water, stock being allowed to graze at large with no fences to restrain them; when the rainfall became scanty and grass failed, the urgency of finding fresh pastures was the more intense. This appears to have been the commencement of a great drought which dried up Lake George and did not break thoroughly till well into 1844. Had there not been such an unlimited area of unstocked country in the west, the losses must have been absolutely ruinous. Thanks to this outlet, the worst results were avoided, and hence we hear but little of probably the severest visitation the country has experienced since its occupation by Europeans.

That this drought was already of some duration further west may be gathered from a statement made by Mr. Peter Stuckey and Mr. Charles Hume Barber that "they travelled together down the Murrumbidgee, in 1835, as far down as the Yanco, seeking suitable country to form runs. They were disappointed in their quest—the whole of that now beautiful district being a sandy waste, blown about by constant strong westerly and northerly winds. They satisfied themselves that this condition was of some considerable duration by noting the size of the sand drifts in various places."

The frequently altered Land Regulations of the Colony also contributed to a considerable degree to drive the stockowners beyond the settled districts.

When the Colony was first formed, the Governor had power to grant 30 acres of land to single, and 50 acres to married men, with an additional 10 acres for each child. Private soldiers, who had served their time in the army, were entitled to grants of from 100 acres to 130 acres, subject to a quit rent of 2/- per acre, which could be deferred for five years, giving time for the farmer to fully establish himself and cultivate a fair proportion.

In 1810, Governor Macquarie, granted land on condition of a payment of 2/- per acre, the cultivation of



one-twentieth, and the reservation of all timber likely to be of use for naval purposes.

In 1822, grants were made without compulsory cultivation, but one convict must be kept for each hundred acres taken up.

In 1823, the quit rent was made 15/- per 100 acres.

In 1824, free grants were allowed not exceeding 3650 acres at a quit rent of 5 per cent, deferred for 7 years, but redeemable at 20 years purchase, at any time during the 25 years, and half the value of the land to be spent in improvements.

In 1826, grantees were promised the return of the purchase money if, during ten years, they should relieve the Crown of expense (ten times the amount of the purchase money) by supporting convicts at £16 per head annually.

In 1831, free grants were abolished, and all land ordered to be sold by auction at an upset price of 5/- per acre. Under this regulation it is recorded that the revenue from land amounted to as much as £60,000 in one year.

Prior to 1833, squatting areas appear to have been held outside the settled districts without any legal right, but by a claim of "first discovery."

In 1833, an Act was passed to protect Crown Lands from intrusion and trespass, and Commissioners appointed.

Under this Act certain obscure rights were given for occupation of these areas, but no definite licenses were issued till 1836.

In this year, under Act 7, Wm. IV, No. 4, grazing licenses were instituted. The regulations issued dated July 29th, fix the duration of these licenses at "one year," but they were renewable. The fee was £10. No limit was made to area, nor was title given to land, but merely permission to graze.

All improvements were made at the squatter's risk, and in 1839, a Stock Tax of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d on sheep, 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d on cattle and 3d on horses, levied half-yearly, to cover the expense of

Crown Lands Commissioners, and mounted police. There appears to have been nothing to prevent anyone taking out more than one license, or holding several blocks under the same payment of £10, a fact that led to great abuse a few years later. The only requirement was that the area held should be stocked, subject to forfeiture if this regulation was not complied with.

It was in September of this year (1836) that the Port Phillip district was first formed, but it only included lands bordering on the Port, and did not extend to the district we are considering.

As early as 1829, practically the whole of Manaro was occupied, and considerable settlement had also taken place on the upper reaches of the Murrumbidgee.

Messrs Peter and Henry Stuckey, well-known graziers on the Wollondilly, formed the run named by them "Willie Ploma" (a large opossum) near the site of the present town of Gundagai. This they held for many years.

Mr. Peter Stuckey, who died at Deniliquin, in 1860, is worthy of more than a passing reference, as he was the father of a large family of sons and daughters, who throughout their lives were closely identified with the fortunes of the district. No less than five of the daughters married pastoralists resident therein, the last of the family, Mrs. Henry Huon, dying on May 29th, 1915, aged 74. Mr. Stuckey was responsible in a great measure for the spread of the beautiful willow trees now so marked a feature of the landscape in many of our most picturesque mountain valleys.

The history of these takes us back to the time of Napoleon's exile in St. Helena. Among those connected with that island at the time was Mr. William Balcombe, a well-known merchant, in whose house Napoleon was lodged, during the preparation of his residence at Longwood. Mr. Balcombe, when settling in Australia, brought with him cuttings of the willow which shaded the great Emperor's grave. He planted them at Kenmore, near Goulburn, where they grew luxuriantly.

When Mr. Stuckey, then living on the Wollondilly, not far away, formed Willie Ploma, he took cuttings from this tree. In the same way the Hon. Hubert Plunket



took cuttings and established them on the Hunter River. The trees grew well at the Murrumbidgee, and when, a few years later, Mr. Stuckey's homestead became the starting place for many of the enthusiastic squatters settling near the Murray, it was but natural that they should take with them further cuttings to keep their memories of "The Homeland" green. Others have been credited with the first introduction of willows to Australia, and possibly correctly, but this is known to be the manner of their introduction to the Upper Murray. In times of drought, these trees have always been found most useful fodder for the stock, and never to a greater extent than during the extreme scarcity of 1915.

In 1831, James Thorn took up the Wantabadgery run, while his brother took Gobbagumbalin (Gobbagumoolin—a turkey egg), and very shortly after, William Guy, or Guise, secured Cunningdoo (Collinjoo—a little drop of water), at the junction of the Tareutta Creek with the Murrumbidgee. This run was afterwards merged in the Borambola holding. The want of defined boundaries in these early days is well indicated by a claim that Guise is said to have made to the possession of the whole of the country between the Murrumbidgee and the Murray above Albury.

The Thompson family soon followed, for we find that they had formed stations at Mickey's Corner, near Kimo Hill, in 1830, and very shortly Oura (cockatoo) and Eunonyhareenya (fighting blacks lying in ambush), thus in 1832 occupying the right bank of the river below Wagga Wagga (Wahga Wahga—crow). About the same time, but probably in 1833, John Gordon formed Borambola, and Robert Holt Best, the Wagga Wagga run, south of the river.

## CHAPTER IV.

Early in the spring of 1835, Charles Hotson Ebdon (later Sir Charles) engaged William Wyse to organise a party to take a mob of cattle and form a run on the Murray.

Several young men were engaged to assist, and Wyse took the usual track by Yass, where Edwin John Abraham then kept the furthest west post office. Reaching the Murrumbidgee, Wyse followed it as far as Cunningsdroo, then held by Richard Guise. Here he turned south-erly and following somewhat the route of Hume and Hovell, 11 years before, pushed on till he reached the Murray, not far from the spot where Hume first discovered it.

Here he at once formed the "Mungabareena" run, which was undoubtedly the first run formed on the Murray and which covered the present site of Albury.

The date of Wyse's arrival in the district has not been recorded, but that it was at the end of October or early in November, may be gathered from two sources. These are McAllister's account of his journey from Sydney to Melbourne overland, in May 1837, and Arthur Willis's book, "A Month in the Bush," published in London in 1838. He also passed through early in May 1837, and agrees with McAllister in saying that "This run had been established eighteen months before."

Wyse fixed his camp on the bank of the river at Mungabareena, where now the Albury Waterworks stand. The name is said by Mr. J. F. H. Mitchell, of Ravenswood, an authority on the aboriginal language, to be derived from "Mun," something very large, "Gabba," tall talk, and "reena," favourable surroundings; it being the usual meeting place of the various tribes when on their annual visits to the mountains in search of the "bogong" or "bugong moths," a very favourite article of their diet. Here also they were, on these occasions, accustomed to arrange for the wives for the younger members of the tribes.



This camp was the only clear space on the banks of the river above flood level for a considerable distance.

Wyse showed considerable energy, for it is recorded that within a few months he had cleared and fenced a considerable paddock, which he sowed with wheat. This must have been the first crop ever grown on the Murray, and we may imagine how anxiously it was watched near harvest time, for all stores had to be brought by dray from Yass, or even further east. The yield is not known, but it was considered satisfactory.

The Mungabareena run was never a large one, and it is believed that 200 cattle were considered sufficient to stock it. It extended from Thurgoona (the rocky place) on the east, to the Spectacle Lagoon, better known as the Sergeant's Lagoon (from Sergt. O'Neill, who resided there in later years) on the west. Northerly it was bounded by the ranges about Rockwood, where "The Pinnacle" showed the boundary.

Within a few days or weeks of Wyse's arrival, some cattle strayed, and following them, Wyse crossed the river at the ford close to his camp; thus discovering the magnificent flats about the junction of the Little River and Mitta Mitta with the main stream. Recognising their value, he immediately took possession and formed the "Bonegilla" run. This was probably the first cattle run formed in what is now Victoria. It was bounded by the Ki-e-wah or Little River on the west, the Mitta Mitta on the east, and the Hume or Murray on the north. The name "Bonegilla" has been variously said to mean "the big waterhole," deep water," or "the big cattle camp"—all most appropriate to the situation.

As with Mungabareena, the exact date of its formation is unknown, but taking into consideration the probable time of Wyse's first arrival here, we may conclude that it was towards the end of November. This is also supported by Arthur Willis, who visited it in May, 1837, and states that "That this station had been formed eighteen months before."

The name of but one of Wyse's assistants has been preserved. This is James Gullifer, who, after living for two years on Bonegilla, went back to Sydney. However he did not settle there but returned to this district and was

associated with Messrs Rowan in the formation of the Peehelba station, beyond the Ovens river. In 1844, he formed the Lilliput run, near Rutherglen, for himself. When the gold diggings broke out, he, like many others, followed the crowd, but soon decided to return to his station where he resided greatly respected till his death, in 1899.

Wyse himself remained at Bonegilla for two years, when he was joined by his brother, James, and they formed the Noorengong run on the Mitta Mitta for Capt. McDonald. In 1840, he took up the well-known Mitta Mitta blocks for himself, and held them in his own name till 1855. In 1845, his name appears in the Government "Gazette," as applying for a Depasturing License on behalf of Messrs Heape and Grice, who were well-known pastoralist financiers of the day. In 1857, he finally parted with his Mitta holding, and for a time retired north of the Murray. After this he carried on a saw and flour mill in Wodonga for some years, but eventually retired at Howlong, with his brother. He died there in 1901 in his 87th year.

Charles Hotson Ebdon was a son of Mr. J. B. Ebdon, a nominee member of the Cape Legislature. He possessing some little fortune when he arrived in Sydney early in the "thirties," soon became a prominent figure in society. Whether driving tandem in George Street, or attending any social function, or race meeting, he was always in the height of fashion. On the other hand, on his station at Bonegilla, a contemporary writer describes him as "wearing a fur skin cap and jacket, and with his long beard being a complete facsimile of the Robinson Crusoe, as depicted in the children's books of the time." He took an active part in the first settlement of Victoria, for within a year and a half of the formation of Bonegilla, he had sent overland the first mob of sheep that crossed the Murray and formed the Sugar Loaf run west of the Goulburn. This he held but a short time, when he moved his stock further west and formed the Carlsruhe run on the Coliban river. He took an active part in the opening up of the road to Melbourne, and was a purchaser at the first land sale in that city. In 1846, he, in conjunction with a Mr. Keene, took up the Kilcool run on the Lower Murray—one of the first runs formed in that part. He was an active politician, and



held several important ministerial positions. He died at the Melbourne Club in 1867, leaving a large estate, both in the Homeland and in the Colonies.

Now, so far, Wyse has been credited with being the first to form a cattle run in Victoria, but there is some reason to doubt whether this is correct, as it is quite possible that he was preceded by James MacFarlane, from Argyle County, and the Ingeegoodbie river, when he settled at the Morass Creek, east of Lake Omeo.

Early in 1835, Mr. George Mackillop, who held country in Manaro, decided to endeavour to find a road to Port Phillip, then just coming into notice. With a party of whom Mr. James MacFarlane was one, he succeeded in passing the rough country at the head of the Snowy river, in the month of June, and one day, to his surprise, found himself overlooking the magnificent tableland about Lake Omeo, where the Mitta Mitta takes its rise. "Mitta Mitta" is said to be a corruption of "Mutta Mutta" meaning thunder.

Mackillop at once recognised the grazing capacity of this tableland, and true to his Scotch origin, named it "Strathdownie." When reporting his discovery, he described the position as at the head of the Ovens river—the course of the Mitta Mitta being at that time unknown. He writes:—

"Strathdownie is entirely surrounded by hills, but not of any great height. So far as I know, all the country between the Snowy mountain and the seaside range, and from 147 degrees to 149 degrees of E. long., is rugged and only partially fitted for the pasture of sheep and cattle, except a small marsh about 5 miles square called Lake Omeo, a little eastward of the stream supposed to be the commencement of the Ovens river, (now known to be the Mitta Mitta), and the country a few miles on both banks of the stream where the land is entirely free from timber, and the downs covered with a most luxuriant sward of kangaroo and other grasses." He continues: "Strathdownie, at the termination of my own excursion, contains 60,000 acres of as fine land as I have seen anywhere in the Colonies. The Strath is well watered by a large stream running through the middle of it, and, according to the account of the native who was with me, the climate is bland all the year round." He also notes

"If I had followed the stream in its course to the N.N.W., the native guide told me, I would have seen as fine land to many times the extent."

When the native guide was asked if the cold was ever great in Omio (i.e., Strathdownie), he replied, "When all the hills of Maneroo got on white nightcap (i.e., snow), in Omio, blackfellow not want it blanket."

Writing in February, 1836, Mackillop states that, "Cattle have already been brought to this part." This is known to have been done by Mr. James MacFarlane, when he formed the run to which he gave the name "Mount Pleasant," on the Morass creek, a little to the east of the lake. This name was later changed by officials to Omeo B. The name "Omio" or "Omeo" means in the Woradgery dialect "mountains," but there is a widespread legend that the name arose from an exclamation made by MacFarlane when he first stood on what is now known as MacFarlane's Lookout.

There is no actual date recorded for this settlement, but the evidence would show that it was either late in 1835, or early in 1836—if the latter, it must have been early indeed, as shown by Mackillop's letter. All concerned have long passed away, and it is hardly possible that it will ever be decided to whom the honour should be given of being the first to form a cattle station in what is now the great State of Victoria.



## CHAPTER V.

Having thus briefly referred to the first settlers of the district, let us endeavour to form some idea of the conditions under which these pioneers commenced the development of the country. An almost unbroken forest extended from the banks of the Murrumbidgee, across the Murray to near the summits of the Great Dividing Range, which borders the district on the south. Not too heavily timbered and with little undergrowth, the general aspect was parklike; the whole being covered with a profusion of that most useful fodder plant the kangaroo grass, now, unhappily, almost extinct, except in a few places inaccessible to stock. Where allowed to grow undisturbed, in good seasons it often reached a height of six feet, it being quite possible to tie it across the saddle on an ordinary horse.

The natives were accustomed to burn it off almost every year and thereby prevented the heavy growth of young trees. That these frequent fires had the effect of keeping the country open was demonstrated in many parts. After settlement put an end to the practice, and the aborigines had died out, dense masses of scrub then took possession of large areas of valuable country, especially on the lower slopes of the mountains in the south.

There were no tracks except such as were made by the natives in the neighbourhood of water. The banks of the rivers, creeks and lagoons were lined with dense masses of reeds, from eight to ten feet high, forming an ideal shelter for innumerable wildfowl. Scarcely any animals but many birds were seen. The country was green and beautiful in the cooler months of the year, but with the advent of summer, became parched and all vegetation withered under the scorching rays of the midday sun.

Mr. E. P. S. Sturt, a brother of the celebrated explorer, appointed Crown Lands Commissioner in this district in 1837, in after years wrote his impressions to Governor Latrobe (see "Letters of Victorian Pioneers"). The district allotted to him was from the left bank of the Murrumbidgee to the right bank of the Ovens river,

and thus covered the whole of the area we are considering. He says:—

"The country at this time was most beautiful: miles of it untrodden by stock, and indeed unseen by Europeans. Every creek abounded with wildfowl, and the quail sprang from the long grass which waved to the very flaps of the saddle. Seldom on my return to the encampment, after a long day's ride to some out-station but what I had to acknowledge the culinary talents of my tent servant, as the savory steam of a stew or pasty would rise from the iron pot, simmering by a glorious fire in front of the tent. No dinner cooked by the most cunning artiste is equal to that one enjoys under such circumstances as those I describe; nor can anything equal the relish that is afforded by the quart pot of tea—a delicacy I know you yourself have appreciated on some of your Excellency's expeditions.

"It has often been a source of regret to me that all the charm attending the traversing of a new country must give way to the march of civilisation: the camp on the grassy sward is now superseded by the noisy roadside inn; the quart pot of tea by the bottle of ale. All the quiet serenity of the Australian bush, as we have known it, has yielded to the demands of population, and this, though a necessary change, is not to be the less regretted. I look back to those days as to some joyous scene of schoolboy holidays."

Further, he speaks of the conditions in summer on the plains between the Murray and Murrumbidgee, which he relates that, "He had ridden over, vainly seeking for water to relieve his distressed horse, and moisten his parched lips." Again, "For miles and miles I have ridden over this monotonous, dreary flat, not a hill to be seen to raise a hope that some creek or waterhole might be at hand; the eyes aching with the dazzling reflection, the mirage of the plains."

"As we approach the mountains, both the climate and character of the soil change. I have noticed that the Upper Murray and the tablelands of Omeo afford an abundant but coarse and unnutritious grass; the trees also assume a cold, wintry appearance, and the foliage becomes yet more sombre than the generality of Australian trees.



"One circumstance I noticed as strange and difficult to account for. Though the climate on the Murrumbidgee and the Murray rivers exactly assimilate, and the distance between them is inconsiderable—about 130 miles—the appearance of the two rivers differ materially. The banks of the Murrumbidgee, as is also the case with its tributaries, the Lachlan, Boorowa and Tumut rivers, etc., are wooded with large swamp oak. On the latter the oaks overhang the banks till they nearly meet, imparting a peculiar gloom to this rapid stream. On the Murray, the oak entirely disappears, being replaced by the bright wattle or acacia. The scent of its masses of blossom in the spring pervades the air, and adds to the pleasing effect that graceful tree has in the mind of the traveller, enhanced by the wild, sweet call of the bell bird."

It is strange at the present day, after reading Sturt's eulogy of the district as he found it in 1837, to find him later in this same letter (1853) to Sir Joseph Latrobe, writing thus: "As for the Murray ever becoming agricultural country, the idea is absurd. The produce which Sir Henry Young (Governor of South Australia) fancies will be conveyed to Adelaide by steamers, is a chimerical idea which can never be realised.

"The alluvial flats constitute the sole land in any way suitable for agriculture, and these are flooded during the spring and early summer by the melting of the snows on the mountains.

"There is hardly a settler on the Murray who can even luxuriate in a vegetable."

He also notes the abundance of codfish in all the streams flowing to the north and north-west, while remarking that they are completely absent from those whose courses run towards the south or south-west.

Sturt so delighted in the solitude of the bush that when the stream of overlanders set in, he felt that the pleasures of bush-life were greatly reduced for him, and he only held his office two years. He then went overland to Adelaide with cattle, taking the route down the Murrumbidgee. A few years later he settled as one of the pioneers of the Mt. Gambier district.

There are but few records regarding the aborigines who occupied this district, and an enquirer is practically limited to gleaning the memories of the older inhabitants.

When and where the Murray natives first came into contact with white men is quite unknown, and the first printed account (the Diary of Hume and Hovell of their journey, 1824-25) is almost silent on the subject. The explorers make no mention of natives till they reach the Little river on their outward march, nor do they mention any belonging to this part, till they reach the Yack-andandah creek on their return. We find the following:

"Sunday, January 2, 1825.—After travelling eight miles they meet with a considerable number of native women and children, perhaps about thirty. The children were engaged in play (at a game called 'Currum-currum') throwing small spears, formed of reeds, at a circular piece of bark about a foot in diameter while it was rolling along the ground; and the women were engaged in spinning flax. One of them (an old woman) gave immediate notice of their approach, exclaiming, 'White man, white man! 'Minija! Minija!' which in the language of the Murrumbidgee would imply, 'Make haste! make haste!' when the whole party rose, and in a few minutes disappeared."

Again, on January 6th, they were about 20 miles N.E. of Battery Mt., when they met another body of men and made friends without much trouble. One of them, who could speak a little English, having been at Lake George, was possessed of an axe.

Next day they induced Hume to visit their camp with three of his men, where they saw about thirty women, as many children, and some very fine young men. One was 6 feet and another they measured, 5ft. 9½ins., robust, and with better developed legs than usual among the aborigines. They describe them as kind and inoffensive. When the explorers returned to the Murrumbidgee, at the camp where they had deposited their baggage on their outward march, they found that their only loss was a portion of a tarpaulin, which had been cut off, showing that at that time the natives were not all the destructive thieves so often complained of in later years.

That they were shy and difficult to get into communication with is not surprising when we know that the explorers were the first white men many of them had seen. The horses were even more strange to them, and it is known that they believed man and horse to be one, till the rider dismounted.



## CHAPTER VI.

Though often mentioned by early writers, but little reliable detailed information is obtainable about the natives. Most of the pioneers being hard working men of action, and with but little leisure, have left only scattered fragments about them.

We find one describing them as treacherous, cunning, murderous and totally unreliable. Another speaks of them as "grown up children, easily managed, quite harmless, and even trustworthy." Many murders and other outrages are recorded against them, and in this part especially, the memory of the "Faithfull Massacre" is not likely to be forgotten.

In "Letters from Victorian Pioneers," Mr. George Faithfull, writing from Wangaratta, relates that after the massacre of his brother's party, "The country was left to us for some years in consequence of the hostility of the blacks, which became so unbearable that I could not keep shepherds, although well armed, without employing a horseman in addition to myself, to keep continually perambulating the woods lest the natives might cut them off. During my employment in this way my cattle were destroyed in numbers within the short distance of only six miles from my hut. I once found fourteen head in one pond of water. Thus I and my men were kept for years in a perpetual state of alarm. We dare not move to supply our huts with wood and water without a gun, and many of my men absconded from my service, throwing away their firelocks, and in some cases destroying the locks and making them wholly useless from sheer terror of the blacks."

On one occasion they were attacked by a large party (he says some hundreds), and in spite of being well armed and firing over sixty shots, the attack lasted from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Many of the bravest were killed. He further says:

"It was remarkable that the children, and many of the women likewise, had so little fear that they ran bold-

ly forward, even under our horses legs, picked up the spears, and carried them back to the warrior men. We at last beat them off the field, and found they had a fine bullock, some of it roasting, some cut up for the spit, and more cattle ready to portion out. The fight I have described, gave them a notion of the sort of stuff the white man was made of, and my name was a terror to them ever after.

"I picked up a boy from under a log, took him home and tamed him, and he became very useful to me, and I think was the means of deterring his tribe from committing further depredations on my property; my neighbours, however, suffered much long after this."

Dr. G. E. Mackay, of Tarrawingee, relates that he found it impossible to keep white servants from the terror inspired by the natives. He first formed the Myrreeh run, but was compelled temporarily to remove his stock for this reason.

Sturt, writing of them, says: "The natives were at all times treacherous to a degree, and the murders they committed were numerous." And further: "The natives of Australia are devoid of any feeling of mercy or pity, no native of a foreign tribe would be safe for an hour, if in the power of others. The most coldblooded murder will excite no remorse; the braining of a wretched lubra will only add to the heroic and indomitable character of the savage."

James Gullifer, one of Wyse's first party, says "That they found it unsafe to leave their hut at any time alone or without their guns."

The first party which attempted to settle on Thologolong in 1836, were compelled to retreat, having lost two of their men, who were murdered by the blacks.

On the other hand, we have the Rev. Joseph Docker, of Bontherambo Plains, who arrived but a few months after the Faithfull Massacre, and the abandonment of the country, relating that for fully twelve months he never saw a native, and when he did get into communication with them, he had no trouble. For many years he employed them on the station, and they were always about the homestead. This is confirmed by other members of his family.



The Rev. David Mackenzie, writing in 1839, mentions a treaty that he made with a black chief when he formed a station on the Billabong, which was faithfully observed by both sides. Many persons, still living, also testify that with a little tact, they were easily managed and made useful.

We must, in discussing this matter, always remember their limited understanding, and unbounded superstition. Having no defined religion, and but a dim belief in good and bad spirits, they came to regard all deaths as the work of enemies, and therefore something to be avenged. The avenger's victim was a mere matter of chance, as opportunity offered to waylay a member of another tribe. What wonder is it that at times they looked upon the invading white man as an enemy to be destroyed at the first opportunity? That they were greatly wanting in reasoning power may be inferred from their frequent wholesale slaughtering of mobs of cattle or sheep, which they could by no means expect to be able to utilise as food.

Like other uncivilised races, they were fully persuaded that when they overcame an enemy even by strategy, they themselves were strengthened, and this superstition easily led them still further till they became cannibals. Among other writers, Mackenzie relates having seen 50 or 60 on the Hume, engaged in eating a man. Instances are also recorded of the eating of children. The consumption of human kidney fat, and the smearing of it over their bodies, became rather a religious rite, than the making use of it for mere food. So also was the carrying about of portions of the bodies of their enemies as charms.

In this district they were copper coloured rather than black, with a graceful walk, but ugly features. Their arms and chests were covered with scars intended for personal adornment. Quite indifferent to pain, and like fish in water, and extremely quick at tracking, they were often most useful to settlers, especially in times of flood, when their light bark canoes were used to cross even swift and dangerous currents. In this way communications were maintained when travelling with horses was quite impossible.

Absolutely without any form of education—unless the art of tracking was more than an instinct—with little mechanical skill, as shown by the rudeness of their

weapons and implements; occasional instances of design or the power of imitation have been recorded. There are in the Mitchell Library, in Sydney, drawings of men, animals, and birds, showing considerable skill having been possessed by at least one aborigine. This was a man known as Tommy McCrae, or Tommy Barnes, who belonged to the tribe living on the banks of Lake Moode-mere, near Rutherglen. He died as late as 1905, aged 68. It is related that he drew from mental picture, rather than from any object at the time visible. These drawings show some idea of perspective, and the attitudes of the figures are most expressive.

There were several tribes in the district under consideration, each with its distinct headquarters and territory. To pass these bounds was almost certain death, except when friendly meetings were arranged for matters of general interest.

These tribes are all believed to have been branches of the same great family, which occupied the eastern part of Victoria, and the south of New South Wales. And merely distinguished by the various dialects of the same root language. They are often referred to as "The Worad-gery," "Wiradjuri," "Wiratheri," etc., but the location of that tribe has been shown by Mr. Bayliss and others to have been confined to the district extending from Jugiong, on the east, to the junction of the Lachlan with the Murrumbidgee, the former river being their northern limit, and the Billabong their southern.

Howitt, in "Natives tribes of South-eastern Australia," states definitely that the tribe occupying the Omeo Plateau was known as the "Ya-itma-thang," (meaning "yes, yes, speech or tongue," evidently from similarity of language) and that the Wolgai roamed to the north, and the Ngarigo or Manaro tribe to the east. To the west there lived a tribe known as the "Bangerang."

The Ya-itma-thang was divided into two sub-tribes—the Theddora-mittung and Kandangora-mittung. The former ranged over the upper reaches of the Mitta Mitta, Kiewa and Ovens rivers; easterly they were bounded by the Cobboras and thence by the Indi river to Tom Groggin, and on the west as far as the upper waters of the Yackandandah, or as the natives knew it, the "Yakonda" river.



The Kandangora-mittung were to be found on the Omeo plain and the Limestone river as far as the Indi river.

North of the Ya-itma-thang, the Wolgai extended to the Murray and along its valley as far as Albury.

Minor branches, known as the Whroo, Kiewa, and Unorring tribes, had their abodes at Wahgunyah, Kiewa, and Wodonga respectively.

Camps generally occupied were at Mungabareena, Walwa, Welaregang, Mannus Creek, on the Little river, and at Lake Moodemere, near Rutherglen, where as many as 500 to 600 were often to be found. Throughout the country back from the river, smaller parties roamed wherever food was obtainable. They usually chose a cleared space for their camps, in the neighbourhood of water, as fish and birds were their principal articles of food. Though many of these camps must have been continuously used for long periods by large numbers, but little trace is left, and nothing to compare with the "Kitchen middens" of the Lower Murray.

A branch of the Wiradjuri, roving about the head waters of the Murrumbidgee, was known as "Kunamil-dan," or "come by night," owing to their often attacking other tribes during the hours of darkness. They were probably the people we read of as the "Geelamatong," or "swift," who are said to have raided as far west as Wangaratta, and were supposed to have been ultimately wiped out by a general rising of the various river tribes.

As in other lands, contact with civilisation, with its accompanying diseases and vices, soon reduced their numbers. As early as 1838, Mr. George Augustus Robinson, was appointed Chief Protector of Aborigines, and had for assistants Messrs Edward Stone Parker, James Dredge, William Thomas and Charles William Sievwright, to guard their interests. Permanent camps were formed at certain points. The best known of these camps in this district was at Tangambalanga, on the Little river, where the late Mr. Thomas Mitchell, for many years, gave much time and substance to the care and superintendence of the few survivors. This he did entirely without reward, while large salaries (even £600 per annum) were paid to most protectors. In spite of all care, the official return in 1862, shows that but about 60 were left in Victoria, east of the Goulburn river.

## CHAPTER VII.

### THE ABORIGINES.

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There are very few now living either able or willing to speak on this subject from personal knowledge. One who has lived a long life on the Upper Murray, and whose boyhood was spent in close association with the aboriginal natives, has frequently, in speaking to the writer, regretted their disappearance. Looking on them from intimate knowledge as "grown-up children" with the impulsiveness natural to their undeveloped characters, he finds plenty of excuse for some of their more objectionable traits.

He is emphatic in saying that, while quick to take offence at any illtreatment, the Murray black was a man of "gentlemanly instincts." His natural politeness frequently led him to agree when asked whether a word meant a certain object, rather than to in any way suggest that the questioner was wrong. Hence frequent mistakes in the application of names to places and objects. He is equally emphatic that if fairly treated they were thoroughly trustworthy, while on the other hand any harsh behaviour towards them was never forgotten, and formed the foundation of perpetual animosity, not only towards the individual, but all his relations and belongings.

He speaks feelingly of them as "friends," and has many pleasant memories of kindnesses received at their hands. Some of his recollections show them to have had considerable native shrewdness, and to be quick at reparation sometimes to the confusion of the whiteman. They were quick to understand and even copy the actions of the settlers. Some amusing anecdotes are told concerning their imitations of their employers, towards whom they often displayed a dog-like fidelity. When taking cattle to market, one black boy at least would be employed, and after the stock were disposed of, he would follow his employer wherever he went, and even, if allowed, would sleep on the mat outside his door.



Their liking for finery was marked, especially for good boots. One named "Bangy" was full of tricks, and alas also a thief, as so many of his tribe. He was once taken by his employer about forty miles with cattle and stayed the night at their destination. Next morning Bangy, finding a pair of excellent boots in the room he slept in, substituted them for his own old ones, and left with his boss for home. When approaching the station, he looked at the stolen boots and exclaimed, "Yawah, mine been put on wrong fellow Bungywalk."

On another occasion, the same black saw one of the whites had a half-crown in his waistcoat pocket, and when the owner hung it up to go to work, Bangy appropriated the money and promptly visiting the nearest public house, soon spent it. He then fell out with the landlady, and after a mutual slanging match, placed his arms round her neck and his legs round her waist and in this position the pair rolled down the hill. Then both white and black made haste for the station—the lady seeking redress—and were met by the man who had been robbed. The trio had a great row: the black contending that the whole blame rested on the man who had placed the money where he could see it. The affair ended in plenty of "Billingsgate."

Boots were always a great temptation to the blacks, who were very proud to wear them. Once at a big must, a black had been riding a horse with a sore back and his master told him to ride another. The black objected that he could only ride it in his best boots. The master insisted, and the black got on the horse, but was soon unseated and his large old boot caught in the stirrup. After being dragged some distance, the stirrup came off the saddle, and the black got up and exclaimed, "I tole you so I want it Sunday boot."

Still another "boot story." An irascible Indian colonel visiting a well-known squatter, had as was customary with officers, numerous pairs of boots, and the black boy had to clean them. The squatter took his guest out daily, hunting, accompanied by the blackboy. Shortly the squatter had to leave home on business, and told his guest that the boy would go with him. The next day the horses were run up as usual for the visitor to choose, but after looking them over, he would not use any. The

same thing happened the next day, but he was later before he told the boy to let them out. The third day he was still later, and when he came to inspect the horses, found them already turned out. He hunted up the boy and furiously asked him why he did not wait till told. The boy answered, "That poor fellow want'em grass, cobborn hot, and plenty ply (fly)." The colonel then said, "Never let them out again till you have my orders to do so." At this the boy's temper got the better of him and he replied, "Why you yabber it like that, mudgegar (master); baal yabber longer me like it that. What you got? Baal got it bullock, baal got it Yarraman, baal got it jumbuck; mine know all you got it, cobborn plenty —boot."

It is pleasant to know that after the boss's return, matters were smoothed over, and before the colonel left he had much greater respect for the black boy than before.

On another occasion, two blackfellows were fighting on the bank of the Kiewa river when one was knocked into the river and drowned. This accident was too public to be overlooked, and an inquest was held. The coroner was a foreigner and did not pronounce his words as some of the native witnesses were accustomed to hear them. To one a question had to be repeated till at last he understood, when he said to the coroner, "Why don't you yabber budgery English, coborn you — — foreigner."

"Merriman" was a well-known character about Albury in the early days. He and Jackendebby were the ringleaders in the Faithful Massacre, but no action seems to have been taken against him owing to his usefulness to the settlers in time of floods. He was brave and resourceful, but addicted to the consumption of human flesh. He is indeed credited with having slain and eaten his own mother, and was at another time seen carrying the shoulder of a Chinaman. He was without doubt an awful scoundrel. He lost a toe when being taken to Melbourne once by the police. When near the Ovens river he got free from the rope and irons and bolted. The constable tried to ride him down, but Merriman seized the reins close to the horse's head and slipping from side to side under its neck, avoided the trooper's sabre. The



horse stepped on his toe, but he got away. Another time he was shut up in a slab hut thatched with reeds. He managed to extract a reed from the roof and pushing it between the slabs to a fire outside, set the roof blazing. During the excitement, he again escaped. His last act occurred close to Lawson's Inn, at Kiewa, when, wishful to beautify himself, he cut a lump of flesh off his forehead and bled to death.

He was once, for some tribal offence, condemned to the following ordeal. He had to stand at about a distance of thirty yards and have three spears thrown at him. Three of the best men were chosen from the tribe, all thirsting for his blood. The affair was witnessed by the late Mr. Thomas Mitchell, so long the owner of Tangambalanga, and later of Bringembrong, who said that the three spears left the throwers' "woomerahs," as far as he could say, at the same moment. One was aimed at his left breast, another for his right breast, and the third lower down. Merriman, in a state of nudity, with only his "heeliman," awaited them and with it turned the spear off his left breast, and at the same time sprang into the air, allowing the spear thrown at the lower part to pass under, while with a rapid side motion he shunned the third. All was done in a moment—a feat of marvellous agility.

Merriman had three brothers, named "Old Ned" or "Needy Wheeler," Harlequin, who was shot by a police constable at Merimarenbung and Simon, who died at Tangambalanga. They were sons of "Billy Elengeist," a previous chief or king of the Little river tribe.

It is related of "Old Ned" that he was a good natured fellow, though said to have roasted one wife, and killed another. Like most of these unfortunates, he had his failings, and once, when worse for liquor, he visited the Church at Albury and when the organ pealed forth, he commenced to dance and sing. He was promptly removed from the edifice, and when visiting a neighbouring station the following day was asked why he went to Church, to which he answered, "Because I was a ——— fool."

In the early days, a well-known blackfellow on the Upper Murray was known as "Gentleman Jack," and his

wife as "Flash Margaret." This man suffered for many years from a severe wound of the head received in defending himself from other blacks, and when he died he was buried in a hollow tree, near Corryong. Some years later his skull was removed and for years graced the study of an Upper Murray squatter. Eventually it was taken to Adelaide, and the holder, wishing to increase his collection, asked a friend to obtain other similar trophies. Shortly after, the friend found some bones in a fallen tree on Bringembrong, and, removing the skull, sent it to Adelaide. Then a further search in the tree led to the discovery of the remains of a black silk dress, which on enquiry proved to have been given to "Flash Margaret" by Lady Hay many years before. Thus husband and wife were re-united, partially at least, after death.

At certain seasons of the year, the Murray blacks were in the habit of meeting amicably not far from Albury, for the choice of wives for the younger men, but more especially to resort to the mountains in pursuit of the bogong or bugong moths, which were to be found in thousands in the clefts of the rocks and about the stunted cabbage gums. The moths were collected by the aid of a fire stick held beneath them, when, their wings being singed, they fell helpless. They were then carried in nets to a broad, flat stone, whereon a good fire had been made, and a quantity of sand well heated. Sand, ashes and moths were all well mixed, and after sufficient cooking sifted through a fine net. The moths were then well kneaded and baked in the fire. They thus formed a sweetly flavoured and favourite luxury for the blacks, on which they soon grew fat.



## CHAPTER VIII.

Though so long a period elapsed between the settlement of the Murrumbidgee and the Murray, Wyse was not long without neighbours. Quite early in 1836, Mr. Charles Huon arrived on the Murray, and within a few days established the Wodonga, or Woodanga, run, on the south of the river, opposite Mungabareena. (Wodonga means "an edible plant growing in a lagoon.") He acted for, and in conjunction with his brother, Mr. Paul Huon, of Bungonia. They were the sons of Gabriel Louis Marie Huon de Kerilleau, a well-known French nobleman, believed to be related to the reigning family. He had left France on account of the revolutionary troubles, and took refuge in England. He then enlisted in the New South Wales Corps, and arrived in the Colony in 1793. His worth was soon recognised and he took his proper place among the best of the colonists. He received his discharge from the Corps, and became a tutor in the family of Lieutenant Macarthur, residing at Parramatta. There he married a Canadian lady named Louise le Sage. He received the usual grant of land on his discharge, and later, in Governor Brisbane's time, he removed to near Bungonia, in the County of Argyle, to a larger grant. This he named "Corrindaroo." It adjoined "Brisbane Meadows," the holding of Capt. Mitchell.

In 1829, he started to visit some relatives nearer the coast, and was never seen again.

The Wodonga run covered a large stretch of country west and south of the Bonegilla holding. The area was undefined—there being no neighbours to consider, and fences not in fashion.

The homestead was erected on the rise just south of the Wodonga creek, at the entrance to the present township from the north. In after years, a second homestead was built on the slope of the hill to the east, and the old building was occupied by a man named Barnes as an hotel, for some years. It became ruinous, and about 1882 was destroyed by fire.

It is generally accepted that Charles Huon, soon after he had established the Wodonga run, proceeded to form an out station at Baranduda (a water rat), on the southern portion; the custom of the time being to form an out station for the heifers and young stock, away from the breeding herd, and this was probably his object. He took up his residence there either at the end of this year, or early in 1837.

There is no definite record of other settlers following Wyse and Huon during the early part of this year, but several parties are credited with having attempted settlement higher up the river. These parties reached the Murray through the rough country between it and the upper waters of the Murrumbidgee, and generally made their way to about Welaregang, before looking for suitable country.

Spalding and party advanced as far as Thologolong (a plain with a creek), with their stock, but soon had trouble with the aborigines and two of their men were killed. This determined them to leave the south of the river, and they crossed to the north, where within a few months they were joined by Francis McCrae Cobham, and formed the Wagra run, now known as Wymah. Cobham afterwards joined the Victorian Mounted Police, and in the late "seventies" held the position of Inspector of Stock at Wodonga. He died in 1902, at the age of 79.

Spalding also soon after was again on the south bank of the river at Bungil, where he was well-known in connection with racing. His son, Frank, till lately living in Albury, had in his possession a handsome silver cup, which his father won at Albury in 1844, competing against horses from Melbourne and Tasmania.

Towards the end of the year, another old identity, in the person of John Waite, from Bong Bong, near Moss Vale, arrived and formed the Bungil (Grassy creek) run, to the east of Mt. Granya, for his son-in-law John Hore. Waite was already a man of 64, but hale and hearty, as indeed he remained almost until his death in September, 1863, at the age of 91. His descendants can better be counted by the score than by units, and are to be met with in all parts of the Commonwealth.



John Jobbins, who hailed from the County Murray, and whose name became a terror to the natives in after years, is said to have formed the valuable Talgarno run, east of the junction of the Mitta Mitta with the Murray just opposite Bonegilla.

Jobbins is also said to have taken up Cumberoona (Crooked river) opposite Talgarno, at this time; but there is considerable doubt whether this formation should not be placed in the following year. It is known that Jobbins having overheard the intentions of two well-known "would-be" squatters, by a forced march, reached the Commissioner's office first, and secured the run. The writer inclines to the opinion that though Talgarno was formed in 1836, Jobbins did not secure Cumberoona till 1837.

James Osborne is also credited with having taken up the Yackandandah country in this year, but there is no certain record of his occupation till 1837.

Rowland Shelley, from Tumut Plains, was certainly on the Murray, about Tintaldra, spying out the land for his mother and brother. He is believed to have formed a camp on Tintaldra, but again there is no definite record till the following year.

Further south, we find John Pendergast, from Wollombi, better known as John Pender, following the example of MacFarlane, and bringing cattle from Manaro, by the head of the Snowy River to the Omeo district. There he settled on the Morass creek, opposite MacFarlane, naming his run the "Three Brothers." This name was afterwards officially altered to "Omeo A." Pendergast had previously held a land grant at Wollombi, which he received from Governor Brisbane.

We can easily imagine these two isolated settlers being quite unaware of the commencing settlement on the main stream, from which they were separated by practically 100 miles of untrodden ranges.

North of the Murray some settlement was made, for before the end of the year, Dutton had established the Battery Mt. run, under the shadow of the range so named by Hume and Hovell. This is now better known as the celebrated "Tabletop" run. He formed his headquart-

ers on the opposite side to and about a quarter of a mile higher up the creek than the present homestead.

The "Gazette," on December 19th, 1836, contains an application, by John Joseph Therry, for a lease of "The Billabong" run in the Murrumbidgee district. This was the commencement of the justly celebrated "Yarra Yarra" run; the reverend gentleman placed Mr. Cunningham in charge. The run is said to have then included what was afterwards known as the Billabong run, lying to the west of the Yarra Yarra property, and which, a few years later, was held by John Kennedy.

Mr. Cunningham's father almost simultaneously formed the Carabost run, further east; William Guise, of Cunnindroo, also taking the Glenroy country as a heifer run. The original name of this latter is given by Townsend as "Ondemaline."

This year (1836), was a most important one, not only as regards this district, but for the Whole Colony of Victoria. Major (afterwards Sir) Thomas Mitchell, was instructed by the Governor of the Colony to trace the course of the Darling river to the Murray, and the latter to its source. On reaching the Murray in the neighbourhood of Wentworth, he followed up stream as far as the mouth of the Loddon river, near the present Swan Hill township. There, instead of following the Murray, he, for some reason, turned south-east, following the Loddon for fifty miles. Then he took a straight course direct for the shores of Bass' Strait, and reached the sea at Portland. Here, to his surprise, he found the Hentys already settled. After a short rest, he decided to return to Sydney by the most direct route he could find. This took him over much of the richest and most fertile land which the Colony possesses. He crossed the Ovens river at the site of Wangaratta, and passing on reached the Murray at "Oolong," or as it is now called, "Howlong." ("Oolong" means a resort of native companions).

Finding no evidence of settlement—though he notes having seen the tracks of a "two-wheeled gig" on the bank of the river—he travelled north-east to the Murrumbidgee, which he struck at Oura, then held by the Tompson family. The party were fortunate in striking settlement as they had already been three days without food.



The track they followed was well marked by the wheels of their dray—the soil being very soft owing to the spring in this part being wet. This track was later frequently availed of by travellers to guide them, and its course still marked by such names as "Major's Plains," "Major's Creek," "Waterhole," etc. Near Livingstone Gully these tracks were still distinct as late as 1846, when John Cox was in possession of that run.

So strongly was Mitchell impressed with the value of the country he passed over that he gave the name of "Australia Felix" to it. An account of his journey was published in Sydney and London, and attracted great attention. Many capitalists and energetic young men of good families, set their faces towards Australia, drawn by the expected pleasure of free, open life, away from the restrictions of Society.

The whole of the territory of Port Phillip was also at this time opened to occupation under grazing licenses. The values of the stock were steadily rising, and the settled parts near the Blue Mountains were beginning to feel the first pinch of drought.

These circumstances, combined with the great influx of capital, led to a gigantic wave of fresh settlement, till no corner of this important district was left without an occupant.

It is impossible to give correctly the exact dates of the formation of the respective runs, as records are so scanty, most of the pioneers leading too strenuous an existence to find time for diaries, or even to write infrequent letters. It is only by gleaning scanty paragraphs in old newspapers and comparing the statements of old residents, that even a probable account can be formulated.

That as late as November, 1836, no settlement had taken place on the Murray below the Wodonga and Mungabareena runs, is clearly shown by Sir Thomas Mitchell's statement, "That after leaving Portland, he saw no sign of settlement till he reached the Murrumbidgee." He further states that he "was quite satisfied that no run had been formed in that neighbourhood at the time." This was when he was discussing the gig tracks he found at Howlong, and it would be very interesting to discover the adventurous person responsible for them.

Capt. John Hepburn, of the ship "Alice," who was one of the first party to take cattle overland to Port Phillip, met part of Mitchell's outfit returning at the Murrumbidgee in that November, and received instructions from them as to the route. He states that "they saw no sign of occupation or civilisation till they reached Melbourne, with the exception of some small fragments of glass in an abandoned native camp on the Goulburn.

In spite of the thinness of settlement, some long-sighted business men soon perceived that at the river crossings there were sufficient inducements to encourage permanent settlement on the part of others than those engaged with stock.

Aimee A. Huon, a brother of Charles Huon, travelling with cattle to Wodonga, was accompanied by his brother-in-law, Robert Brown. On Huon's advice, when they reached the Murray, Brown remained on the north bank of the stream while Huon went on to Wodonga with the cattle to join his brother. Brown settled close to the tree that Hume had marked at the time of the discovery of the river and built a fairly comfortable hut and store, with fair accommodation for travellers, and to supply some of the wants of the residents. He soon found it necessary to increase his accommodation and erected a substantial slab building, for which he obtained a license from the magistrate at Yass. The place was then known as "The Crossing Place," a similar name being applied to the crossings of the other rivers on the road.

Similarly a man named Rattray or Rafferty, settled at the Ovens Crossing, now Wangaratta. Within a year he sold out to William Clarke, one of the most prominent individuals in the north-east for many years, and often described as "The Father of Wangaratta." He was a man of great enterprise, and erected a store and residence on the site of the present Sydney Hotel, in Temple Street, Wangaratta. Later he built the first inn there, "The Hope," and carried on an extensive business for many years.



## CHAPTER IX.

The late spring of 1836 also saw the commencement of what was for many years known as "Overlanding." The object was supplying the wants of the rising city of Melbourne, and the stocking of the magnificent country described by Sir Thos. Mitchell. Hume and Hovell, in their journal, had also drawn attention to the value of the country they had passed through, especially about the Ovens river.

The first party organised for this purpose, was led by John Hepburn, Joseph Hawdon and John Gardiner, who met at Howe's station on the Murrumbidgee, in October. This was about 180 miles from Sydney. They soon mustered a mob of cattle and started to take them to Melbourne. They travelled down the Murrumbidgee, and at Gundagai met with part of Major Mitchell's party returning from Portland, under the leadership of Mr. Stapylton. From them they received advice as to the route, and following the Major's tracks, well marked by the dray wheels, reached and crossed the Murray at Howlong, fourteen days later. On the following day, one of the party shot a black native dog at the Doma Mungie creek, now known as the Black Dog creek from that circumstance, near where Chiltern now stands.

They followed the Major's tracks as far as the Goulburn river, and then made straight for Melbourne, which they reached safely.

There they formed the "Gardiner's Creek" run, covering the site of the now fashionable suburb of Toorak. Having seen no evidence of settlement after leaving the Murrumbidgee, Hepburn always claimed that this was the first cattle run formed in Australia Felix. That it was not the first in what is now Victoria, has been shown above, but the territory of Port Phillip, not having been extended far eastward of the port, it might fairly be claimed the first in that district to which the name "Australia Felix" was often applied, though it was used by Mitchell to cover a much larger extent of country.

A few weeks later, the Hon. W. A. Brodribb, sent the second mob of cattle over the Murray, crossing at the



site of Albury, and he claimed to have thus opened up the direct road to Melbourne, though he admitted that Hepburn took the first cattle across.

Though these companies passed through the district, they can hardly be said to have taken part in its development, except so far as they showed the road to Melbourne to be practicable and safe.

The influence of Major Mitchell's report was immediately felt, and though it was late in the year before he returned to Sydney, many persons at once took steps towards securing some of the advantages foreshadowed. Applications for grazing licenses became more frequent, and it is known that several who later settled in this district, now commenced their preparations.

During the summer months of 1837, a constant stream of stockowners, crossed the Murray at Albury. Large mobs of sheep, cattle, and horses were to be met with every few miles on the road. New stations were rapidly formed wherever the situation appeared favourable. John Hore reached Bungil, and soon opened negotiations with the Cobham party for an exchange for Wagra, and the transaction was completed before the end of the year. In later years, Hore acquired several runs. He purchased Talgarno from Jobbins, in 1848, formed Tarramia, on the Lower Murray, bought Bethanga from Messrs Johnston, in 1854, and Cumbaroona from Calder Bros soon after. About 1870, he sold Talgarno, Bethanga and Tarramia, and confined his attention to Cumbaroona. He became noted for his fine herd of Durham cattle, and also as a successful horse breeder. When he died in 1895, having no family, he left a very large fortune between the numerous nephews and nieces of his wife and himself.

Mr. Charles Huon now purchased the Mungabareena run from Ebdon, and when his sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Mitchell, became a widow shortly after, transferred it to her.

Mrs. Mitchell was the only daughter of Gabriel L. H. de Kerrilleau, and had, when very young, married William Mitchell, a retired officer of the Kent Militia, who lived at Brisbane Meadows, adjoining her father's holding.

She had a young family of four sons and five daughters. The sons were Thomas, so well known as the owner



of Tamgambalanga for many years, and for his gratuitous work as Protector of Aborigines there till he purchased Bringembrong and Indi stations, on the Indi river, in 1875. He resided at Bringembrong till his death, in 1887.

Edward, the second son, remained for some time at Brisbane Meadows, when he joined his elder brother, who was then in charge of Mungabareena. A few years later he settled at Eilerslie, somewhat to the north of Albury, and when well advanced in years, removed into town, where he died, over 80 years of age.

James, the youngest son, on his marriage in 1857, took up his residence at Tabletop, where he was well-known as a successful grazier and horse owner, and for his active efforts for the advancement of the district. He died there in April, 1914, aged 79.

The third son, Mr. J. F. H. Mitchell, of Ravenswood, Victoria, is now (1919) the only survivor. Associated with the Mungabareena run from his boyhood, he lived at and managed Hawkesview for many years. He is an authority on the aboriginal language of the district, having learnt it as a boy. He has published a vocabulary of the dialect, which includes some of their songs, etc.

The daughters were, Mrs. John Dight, of Bungowanah, who survived her husband many years, and left many descendants. Mrs. Elliot Heriot, of Caraabobala. Mrs. Ancrum Heriot, of Rockwood, Mrs. Bowen Jones, whose husband held Bonegilla station many years, and Mrs. Steel. They all lived long lives and are well remembered in the district.

When the run was made over to Mrs. Mitchell, her eldest son took charge. A homestead was built about two miles east of the first camp, at a spot where a rocky ridge crosses the river, and which was known to the natives as "Thurgoona," meaning "the rocky place." Some years later another house was built at Hawkesview, which is still occupied. The earlier building was destroyed by fire.

By this time a well-defined road had been opened much in the direction of the present Sydney-Albury road, and had become the usual route of overlanders.

The convenience and safety of this route was so well recognised that proposals for an overland mail were

made. The Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Deas Thompson, obtained reports from more than one source. That prepared by the Brothers Ryrie is still to be seen at the Mitchell Library, Sydney. They took stock across the Murray in 1837, and noted the various stages and watering places on the road. They mention Dutton's Battery Mt. station as 34 miles from Therry's Billabong run, then they give the distance to the Murray Crossing, where Hume first discovered the river, as sixteen miles, and describe the road to the Ovens as "good and well watered."

Arthur Willis, in his book "A Month in the Bush," published in London in 1837, mentions having visited Dutton's Battery Mt. run in company with the owner, in May, 1837. He states that Mr. Darlot was in charge, and that there were already 1000 cattle on the property, divided into breeding, bullock and heifer herds. He mentions Ebden having held a run, just south, 18 months. He crossed the river at Bungowannah, and camped on the Indigo creek, (so named from the abundance of a blue flower growing there). There the dray became bogged, and while matters were being righted, he, with a Mr. Brown, visited Bonegilla, where he states, "Ebden had the largest and strongest stockyard he had seen in the colony."

He goes on to say that "Wyse had already reaped a crop of wheat on the opposite bank of the river." This must have been on what was later known as Mrs. Eliz. Mitchell's preemptive right, and now part probably of Seymour's farm. Wyse's energy is displayed in clearing, fencing and cropping in such a short time after securing the run late in 1835, and this crop must undoubtedly have been the first grown on the Murray.

John Hepburn, also, when he returned to Sydney from his first overland trip, wrote letters to the "Colonist" newspaper pointing out the safety of the route and the necessity for an overland mail. He also sent a report to the Government in which he recommended Major Mitchell's route, showing the stages and how easy it would be to provide hay, etc., at any point. He, however, did not recognise the want of a water supply in summer between Howlong on the Murray and the Murrumbidgee.

Speculation in stock was very active, and we find stations on the Murrumbidgee changing hands at from 35/- to £3 per head of the sheep carried. Land hunger



had become fully developed among the colonists, and many large holdings were formed.

The exact sequence is unobtainable, but the following are known to have occurred during this year. Aimee Augustus Huon, who arrived at Wodonga in 1836, now took up Murra-murran-bong (grand mountain or unbroken mountain chain) on the west bank of the Kiewa river. (Ki-e-wah means sweet water) His next neighbour on the south was James Osborne, now well established at Yackandandah (Yakonda, or Yag-gan-doona—hilly country). Joseph or Joe Slack took Barnawatha or Barnawoodtha (a deaf and dumb blackfellow), but held it only a few months, before taking his stock across the Goulburn. Both William Bowman and Col. White were camped at Tarrawingee during the winter, but were compelled by troubles with the natives to abandon it, though Bowman finally settled there early in the following year. A. F. Mollison also wintered with his stock on Bontherambo. He had 5000 sheep and 600 cattle, and moved on to the Coliban before the end of the year. Bethanga, on the Mitta, south of Talgarno, was taken by William Roberts of the Shoalhaven river, he thus securing one of the most valuable properties in this district.

John Vardy took up Thologolong (a plain with a creek) east of Bungil, for Redfern Bros. This run had been abandoned by Spalding and party in the previous year. James Wyse joined his brother, William, at Bonegilla, and with him took up Noorengong run, south of Tallangatta, for Capt. MacDonald. The name is said by Mr. J. F. H. Mitchell, to mean "a magpie," but others claim that it should be translated "a lightwood tree"; it is also said to have been the native name of the lower course of the Mitta Mitta close to the Murray. Dr. Mackay, in "Letters from Victorian Pioneers," states that when he was driven from "Myrrhee" by the natives, he took his stock to the Hume river (Nurengong). This would support the claim that the name was applied to the lower Mitta, as by no stretch of imagination could Noorengong run be said to be on the Hume.

Higher up the Murray, Rowland Shelley was busy securing a large area of country. He took Tintaldra for his brother, William; Cudgewa, for his mother; and Weramatong for himself. The latter is said to be derived from

the native term for a spear handle, "wooden arm" or "a very strong arm." One of the early employees there is said to have had but one arm, but the strength of this limb was above the ordinary. The Shelley family were previously settled in the Argyle country near Goulburn.

Charles Huon stated that early in this year he made his way under the guidance of natives from Manaro to the upper Murray. He camped at the mouth of the Greg Greg river. Swimming the Murray, he inspected Tintaldra, and recrossing examined Welaregang and decided to secure both. He returned by what he calls "Ike's Mt." (Mt. Bogandera) and reached Bago Heifer run. There he heard that Shelley had got on his track and secured Tintaldra, which led him to abandon his intentions regarding Welaregang.

Robert Mason passed still higher up the stream and took up Bigarea, or Beggary run (from Be-ag-a-ree—the red earth used by natives to ornament their bodies). This run adjoins the Towong run on the south, but there is no record of the latter being formed till the following year.

North of the Murray, Redhall Bros. took up Dora Dora, or Daara Daara, opposite Thologolong. From Purtell took Ten Mile creek, so named because the homestead was ten miles from Father Therry's Yarra Yarra stockyard. Purtell's run then included the country from which Anandale and Mountain Creek runs were later formed. The sparseness of the population at this time may be gauged by the following: Many years ago a relative of Purtell told the writer that "when Purtell first took up the Ten Mile Creek station, there was not a white man on the face of the earth, except himself and the blacks." This being said in a rich brogue, it was quite unnecessary to ask the nationality of the speaker.

It was in this year that the late T. H. Mate, so long a prominent resident of the district, first reached it. He settled at Umutbee, near Tarcutta, having been dissuaded from travelling further by reports of native troubles. He stocked his run with sheep bought from one of the Mac-Arthurs, who may justly be called the pioneer of sheep-breeding in Australia. His occupation of the run was disputed by Guise, of Cunningdoo, who claimed to have taken the country the year before. Mr. Mate opened a



store in Albury in 1849, carrying on an extensive business. He represented the original Hume District in Parliament from 1861 to 1870, and was Mayor of Albury in 1888. He died in 1894, aged 84 years.

John Jobbins was now firmly established at Cumbercona, and his name was already becoming well-known if not respected among the natives.

Matthew Smith formed the small Bowna or Bownayan run, east of Mungabareena, at the mouth of the Bowna Creek. He lived but a short time and was buried near the present Hawksview bridge.

John Dight, who had been forstalled in securing a run on the Murray east of the last, passed further down and secured the celebrated Bungowannah run, which he held for many years.

The only other run which can certainly be said to have been formed during this year is Howlong or Oolong (Oolong means a resort of native companions) which John Hawdon formed and put under the charge of a Mr. Weatherall. Joseph Hawdon, in his account of his first overland trip to Adelaide, mentions visiting this run during the first week of January, 1838.

An elderly man named Barrett settled at the Murray Crossing as a blacksmith. He built a shop close to Robert Brown's accommodation house, and soon found plenty of business.

An early writer, who passed through in this year, records that besides Brown's establishment, there were two or three other dwellings, and usually seven or eight tents, occupied by travellers.

So much has been written about the experience and adventures of the overlanders, and so many were the persons concerned, that it is impossible to give the proper precedence to the various parties. Chas. H. Ebdon claimed to have sent the first mob of sheep across the Murray, in charge of a young squatter named Charles Bonney. These he intended for the stocking of his Sugar Loaf Creek run, which he is said to have formed the year before, near the Goulburn river. He only left them there for a short rest, when he pushed on to Carlsruhe, near

the Coliban river. Bonney had with him seven of Ebdon's assigned servants, and among them two, Dignum and Comerford, who were later distinguished as probably the most notorious rascals that ever afflicted Australia. While on this journey, Bonney opened up the road to Melbourne, and noticing the value of the country about Kilmore, secured that run for himself. Many well-known names in the pastoral world now assume prominence. Sylvester Browne, in after years the owner of extensive runs in the Ballarat district, Robert Shadforth, who became a prominent Gold Commissioner and later Police Magistrate; Thomas Barry Alexander, who, in company with the two last was camped on the banks of the Murray when they received the tidings of the accession of Queen Victoria, and celebrated the event, it is said, in Champagne. David Reid, urged by drought to leave Bungonia, and who settled at Carra-gar-mungee in the following year; A. F. Mollison, McKinnon, MacAllister, Monckton Darlot, Farquhar McKenzie, Hector Norman Simpson, all too well-known as leading figures in the history of the early development of Victoria to require further mention; Peter Snodgrass, Hughes, Murdoch, Col. White, and several others, found it convenient to winter their stock about the Bontherambo Plains, most of them passing across the Goulburn before settling. They each had large mobs of sheep and cattle, A. F. Mollison alone having left his station on the Murrumbidgee with 5000 sheep, 600 cattle and 20 horses. The drought was already so pronounced that many lagoons considered permanent were dry, and the Bontherambo country seems to have been a veritable "oasis in the desert."

It is known that Huon, at Wodonga, cultivated the bed of the lagoon there, and repeated the procedure in 1838, since which year it has been impossible. The large lagoon in front of the homestead at Bonegilla, is also stated to have been dry at this time, and it is even claimed that the bed of it was used as a training ground for racehorses. Racing was almost the only amusement of the settlers, as every man owned at least one horse.

Scratch meetings were arranged at every opportunity among the residents or those compelled to camp for any length of time with their stock when the river was high. Owners up was the rule, and many doughty deeds are related by "old hands."



## CHAPTER X.

Towards the end of the year 1837, the Government called for tenders for a fortnightly mail between Yass and Melbourne, both ways. The route chosen was the usual one from Melbourne till the Black Dog creek was reached, when Major Mitchell's track was followed to the Murrumbidgee. Why this route was chosen when Ryrie's report showed the suitability of the more easterly track, and E. P. Sturt, the Crown Lands Commissioner of the time had reported against it, because of the scarcity of water in summer, is hard to say.

The following varied accounts of the first trip of the overland mailman, with extracts from the diary of the contractor, show well the difficulties which often beset the path of the historian endeavouring to place the truth on record.

First we have a spicy narrative taken from the "Albury Border Post," of August 20, 1897:—

### The First Overland Mail.

"The first overland mail between Melbourne and Sydney started from the Melbourne Post Office on January 1, 1838, the negotiations between the contractor, Mr. Joseph Hawdon, and the Government of New South Wales (which was then supreme at Port Phillip) having been begun about the time when the young Princess Victoria was proclaimed Queen of Great Britain and Ireland. The contract price for the carriage was £1200 a year; a fortnight was allowed to traverse the country between the Yarra and the town of Yass, whence the mail was carried on to Sydney by coach. Mr. John C. Bourke, who carried the first parcel of letters from Melbourne to the Murray is still living, hale and hearty, with his family at Flemington—all his faculties being as sound and active as they were half a century back. To a representative of the Melbourne 'Argus,' a few evenings ago, he told a thrilling story of his first overland journey. (Bourke died in 1902, aged 87 years.)

“‘When I first set out amidst the cheers of the boys who gathered to see me off and wish me luck,’ the veteran began, ‘some shook their heads in doubt, for there was no definite route, and the natives were hostile.

“‘Her Britannic Majesty’s mail (weighing about fifteen pounds, myself, my provisions and bedding, my wardrobe, and my armoury, consisting of two old horse pistols) found ample accommodation on the back of one horse—a sure but by no means a fleet footed animal. There were no places to put up at—I carried my damper and my billy with me—and when night came and my horse and I got tired, we pulled up in the scrub, and camped out for the night. The mail bag made a very comfortable pillow. I had a compass and now and then found plenty of use for it. Rivers had to be forded here and there and tracts of bush penetrated, and even in those days there were dangerous characters on the road—old convicts mostly.

“‘The run was fairly uneventful till I reached Granite range, about a dozen miles the other side of the Ovens. The horse was enjoying a drink at a hole by the side of a hill when he started suddenly and bounded forward. A spear which had been intended for my back, lodged in his, and he galloped several miles before I could pull him up and cut it out. Though he lost a lot of blood and the wound was a painful one, he managed to take me to the Hume. Before I reached that river I was accosted by an evil-looking character with a gun. He had an eye like a native dog, and when I asked him who he was merely answered ‘Pickup.’ (It turned out that ‘Pickup’ was an old convict attached to an exploring party on its way from Sydney to Melbourne.

“‘My last adventure on that trip was more ludicrous than serious. When trying to swim my horse over the Hume (that is the proper name, and not the Murray, for Hume saw it long before Murray did) he got stuck a little way out from the bank, his legs sinking into the soft clay. I took off the saddle and mailbag but he still remained fast and there was nothing for it but for me to swim the river and get assistance at Howlong, or Oolong, which is the proper name.



“When I got across, after a long and desperate swim I set off for Weatherall's station as naked almost as when I was born; a pack of fifty dogs caught sight of me, and as if seized with a common impulse, came on like a tornado of devils. There was not much time to think, and you cannot appeal to a flock of hungry dogs upon the sacredness of the person of Her Majesty's mail. There was a big gum tree just at hand, and I forgot my dignity in the presence of such an acceptable haven of retreat, and boldly ran up it as far as I could get, while the dogs, disappointed at having lost what no doubt appeared the makings of a satisfactory breakfast, howled round the tree or tried to get up after me.

“Mr. Weatherall came along with a gun, and calmly proceeded to take aim, with the assurance that if I did not come down in half a jiffy, he would blow some of the feathers off me. ‘Who are you anyhow, and what do you want?’ he demanded. ‘Take those dogs away,’ I replied, ‘I am Her Majesty's mail from Melbourne.’

“That settled him, he just sat down and laughed and after he could laugh no more, he looked me cannily over from top to toe, and observed, ‘So you are the mailman, are you? Well, I don't think much of your uniform! Where have you got the letters?’ ‘There in the bag,’ I answered, but as he could not see anything about me which answered the description, he refused to be convinced that I was not an escaped lunatic till I came down and told him of my adventure. We got a canoe and tried to tow my poor old grey horse out of the quagmire, but when we got him out his legs were partly paralysed and he couldn't swim. Taking hold of his rope, I jumped in and led him down stream in the hope of landing him, but had not gone very far when a big tree, growing across the river, barred our progress. I dived under it, so did the horse, but while I came up alright, he was drowned and so ended his troubles.

“The first overland mail was delivered within contract time, and I continued to run it fortnightly between the Murray and the Yarra for a year after.”

In spite of the above thrilling narrative, historical accuracy requires that what actually happened should be recorded, and the following extract from the diary of the mail contractor, Joseph Hawdon, as published in London in 1839, throws a very different light on the subject.

Extracts from the original manuscript of Joseph Hawdon's Journal, 1839, now in the Public Library, Adelaide:—

"Jan. 1st, 1838—Hawdon states that it was dusk before he could start."

"Jan. 2nd—Commenced journey in company with post boy to Yass."

"Jan. 3rd.—Rested."

"Jan. 4th—Saw drays start. (These carried supplies, etc., for the trip to Adelaide, with cattle). Then rode to Mercer Vale with the post boy; halted at Bouney's, and Benton's, 36 miles N. of Melbourne."

"Jan. 5th—Reached the Goulburlu river, riding 70 miles."

"Jan. 6th—Travelled 60 miles to Ovens river at Junction with the King river. Large tribes of aboriginals."

"Jan. 7th—Travelled over a pretty good forest country until at noon we arrived at my cattle station on the river Hume. We hailed the stockmen to send over a canoe, but not being able to make them hear, I was obliged to swim across. The river is here about a hundred yards wide with a strong current. Our distance to-day has been thirty one miles we have therefore journeyed upwards of one hundred and eighty miles in three days and a half, which, considering our horses have had to carry our provisions and luggage, besides the heavy mail-bags in charge of the post boy, may be called good travelling.

"At this station I found the post boy with the mail from Yass, and received my papers and letters from Sydney, proving to me the advantage of this inland post. My post boys exchanged their mail bags—one returning to Melbourne and the other to Yass; from the latter place they were forwarded by mail coach to Sydney, a distance of 180 miles. The immediate banks of the Hume are well adapted for grazing stock, at least on the flats and around the broad lagoons that adjoin the river, some of which extend as far as three miles. Here also is a large plain,



"Jan. 13th—Started back to the Goulburn River. Hot winds nearly suffocated man and horse. Camped midday at waterhole where, Mr. Weatherall (who started with me from my station on the Hume) came up with the man, when we made tea and rested two hours. Was struck by lightning in severe storm which followed great heat. Reached the Ovens by night and camped a day.  
"Jan. 17th—Weatherall returned to 'Oolong.'

It will be noticed above that Joseph Hawdon twice mentions "my station . . . on the Hume," while it is distinctly stated by a surviving daughter of his brother John Hawdon, that the station belonged solely to the latter, and that her uncle had no claim to it in any way. The only interest that Joseph Hawdon had in it was that he made use of the station to sell some cattle when taking them overland to Adelaide.

The Melbourne "Advertiser" of January 15th, 1838, thus refers to the matter: "The first mail for Sydney (overland) left here on the 2nd January last, and the first mail from Sydney arrived on Saturday the 13th January last. The mail left the seat of Government (Sydney) on the 30th December, 1837."

## CHAPTER XI.

With the establishment of the mail service, our district became fairly in touch with civilisation. Though no local post offices were opened till some years later, the residents were enabled to get their correspondence more regularly and frequently by the good offices of the mailman. The rapidly increasing stream of travellers on the road largely assisted to improve communications between the various runs. Though the drought almost confined stockowners to the immediate neighbourhood of the larger water courses, the year 1838 witnessed a very large increase in the rush for new homes, and long before its last months, hardly any accessible portion of the district which possessed the blessing of a water supply was left unoccupied.

How crowded the track became may be gathered from John Hepburn's record of his second overland trip early in this year. He says that "when he reached the Murray, at the site of Albury, he was in the company of David and William Coghill, and William Bowman." They claim to have crossed 9000 sheep in  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours, and they soon overtook William Hamilton, who had been delayed at the crossing. They all travelled to the Goulburn, where Ebden, Capt. Brown, A. T. Mollison, John Harrison and Coghill formed stations. Within a week or so Mr. Peter Snodgrass crossed, and mentions that John Murchison, Farquhar McKenzie, Dr. Dixon, Peter Murdoch, James Campbell, Henry Kent Hughes, Howey and Hamilton were all on the road together. All these formed stations beyond the Goulburn.

The only non-grazing resident that he mentions is a John Clarke, who had settled at Goulburn, as his namesake had at the Ovens crossing.

Besides this great stream of travelling stockowners who merely rested on any convenient spot to refresh their charges, we find a great development of actual local settlement at this period. Such names as Docker, Faithfull, Reid, Chisholm, Lindsay Brown, and Barber, soon became household words. In every old record some one or more of them will be found mentioned, and the memory



of their services in developing the district is not likely to be lost.

The rapidity with which the various runs were formed makes a chronological account impossible. Practically during this year (1838) the whole of the flat country, with much of the lower slopes of the Dividing Range, was occupied—some of the holdings extending almost to its summit. There is great difficulty in obtaining accurate dates of the various happenings, most of the records being from memory some years after the event.

In 1853, Sir Joseph Latrobe, then Governor of Victoria, caused letters to be written to many of the pioneers of the Colony, asking for an account of their first settlement in various parts, he having intended to write a history of the early days of the Colony. For some reason he was unable to carry out his intention, and when leaving Victoria deposited the replies he had received with the trustees of the Public Library. They, in 1898, had them printed under the title of "Letters from Victorian Pioneers," and in that volume we find many references to our district, by those who took an active part in its first settlement.

Several of these letters go far to show the conditions under which these worthy pioneers lived, and the hindrances to which they were subject, from the aborigines, the climate and the authorities, though the latter certainly conscientiously endeavoured to assist the settlers as far as they found it possible.

Mr. George Faithfull relates that he decided in February, 1838, to bring his stock from his New South Wales station near Bungonia. He travelled the usual route as far as the Ovens river, when he turned aside to the Oxley Plains, with the intention of settling on them. He says: "Many persons and numerous flocks and herds were on the line of march when I was, but none tarried or turned to the right or left hand—all were hastening on to the lands so highly pictured by the reports of Sir Thomas Mitchell. When I arrived at the Ovens, I knew, from Hume's description, that there were plains called after the former Surveyor General, Oxley. I determined to turn out of the beaten road and visit Oxley plains, where I finally determined on leaving my horned cattle, sending on my sheep to the finer lands spoken of by Sir Thomas Mitchell. It was at this juncture that I sent on my brother's sheep, under the charge of his overseer, to

the Broken river, to await my coming up. This was the party attacked by the natives, and sustaining such heavy loss."

Several differing accounts of the terrible occurrence have been given, and not less than four dates, viz., the 9th, 10th, 11th and 15th of April, mentioned. The accounts vary in that one says "all the men were killed"; another that, "eight out of fourteen lost their lives; and a third that "most of the men were killed, but one escaping unhurt."

The following, extracted from the "Benalla Standard," of August 6th, 1907, may be taken as probably correct as to date and other details.

Statement of J. H. Brown, a son of one of the two men who escaped from the attack.

"There were nine men altogether, and they camped with the sheep which were being brought over, on the spot where Magennis' Mill now stands. Mr. W. P. Faithfull, with another man, went on to Euroa to look for land and the sheep remained behind. The blacks, all this time were very friendly, but occasionally they killed a sheep, and then came to the camp and put down its loss to dingoes.

"It was the practice to drive the sheep in two mobs, and when the time came for pushing on, two men went on in charge of the first mob. The removal of the sheep did not please the blacks, and after the men had gone on a short distance they were attacked and killed. Without knowing the fate that had befallen their mates, two other men started off shortly after in charge of the second mob, and they were killed after going a short distance. The other five men were left behind with the dray. The blacks came on them, and although they had firearms in the dray they were unsuspecting till attacked, and three were killed. The other two, Brown and J. Crossley made their escape as previously stated.'"

"He then pointed to Magennis' Mill as the site where the dray stood and the three men were killed. He also stated that three of the bodies were buried where the remains were found by Mr. Uren, and the others further over in the Cockatoo paddock, near where the fence now is between Cockatoo paddock and Mr. Coish's."

A letter from Col. White, dated April 15th, 1838, on the left bank of the Ovens, informs the Colonial Secre-



tary that a "most ferocious attack having been made on 18 men of Mr. W. P. Faithfull's, at Swampy river or winding swamp, by about 300 aboriginal natives. It appears that on the morning of the 10th inst., when they were about putting their bullocks to, the dash was made, when eight of the white men were unfortunately slain, and property, I believe considerable, destroyed. Mr. George Faithfull was on his way to this party when he fell in with one of the mangled corpses of the white men—several were found and buried. Mr. Faithfull has fallen back on my station with the escaped people and one wounded man who is so dreadfully lacerated that I believe he cannot survive."

Sir R. Bourke, in a Despatch to the House of Commons, says: "Between the rivers Ovens and Goulburn, a large convoy of sheep and cattle, under the charge of fifteen men, was attacked by a party of blacks, said to have been 300 strong. Seven of the white men were killed, and the rest as well as the whole of the cattle, dispersed in all directions." He then quotes Col. White's letter.

This massacre decided Faithfull to remain at Oxley; but that he also at least temporarily occupied some of the country afterwards included in Bontherambo run, is shown by his having built the first homestead there. This building was afterwards somewhat enlarged by the Rev. Joseph Docker, when he took up the run in October, 1838. This is the edifice shown in the frontispiece of this volume as typical of most early station homesteads.

Col. White is also known to have formed a run on the Sunday creek as early as May, 1837; and Dr. William Bowman is said to have formed the Tarrawingee run before Faithfull arrived. Faithfull himself says that "within a few months" of his settling at Oxley he had Messrs Bowman, Reid, Docker and Chisholm, as neighbours.

Dr. George Edward Mackay, states that he arrived on the Ovens on the evening of the day of the Faithfull massacre. There were two temporary encampments in that part prior to his arrival, viz., Mr. William Bowman and Col. White.

In a few days Mr. Faithfull selected Oxley Plains, and he himself, Myrree, immediately opposite. The latter, within a few months, became the property of J. W. Chisholm.

Troubles with the natives became very acute after this massacre, and most of the white servants abandoned their employers from fear. Messrs. Bowman, Faithfull and White were compelled to leave their cattle to their fate and all were dispersed. Mackay himself, after great privations, succeeded in driving his cattle safely to better quarters, on what he calls "The Hume (Nurengong)." It is difficult now to identify the place as previously mentioned.

Writing of this time, he says, "I may mention as a specimen of the fatigue undergone by the earlier squatters, that for six days and nights before I left the Ovens, I never lay down, being engaged all day in herding the cattle, and all night in walking around them. I was alone—one of the men being similarly employed with the sheep, and the other two in guarding and removing the stores.

When the necessity for the exertion ceased, he could neither see nor walk, and was carried back to the Hume in a dray. He continues, "There was at the time no station between Barnawatha, on the Hume (now G. H. Barber's) and Sugar Loaf creek (W. Hamilton's, previously Ebdon's). The blacks were not numerous, but very hostile. They murdered a number of white men, and destroyed a great number of cattle and horses." Further, in the same letter, he relates: "In May, 1840, 21 of them (natives) all armed with guns, besides their native weapons, attacked my station in my absence. They murdered one of my servants, and burned my huts and stores, and all my wheat. Tea was at that time in Melbourne worth £20 a chest, and flour £100 per ton. Four horses, each worth £100, were killed, and only seven head of cattle out of 3000 left on the run. The rest were recovered at such an expenditure of money and energy, as have left me an invalid for life, and to this day comparatively a poor man."

Six months after Dr. Mackay removed his cattle to the Hume, he returned with them to the Ovens, and found that Chisholm had taken possession of his abandoned run at Myrrhee. Faithfull had returned to Oxley Plains, Bowman was well established at Tarrawingee and Bowman's Forest, Joseph Docker at Bontherambo, and David Reid at Carara-gar-mungee, so there was nothing left for him but to select Whorouley.



## CHAPTER XII.

On September 8th, 1838, the Rev. Joseph Docker settled at Bontherambo Plains, taking possession of and enlarging the homestead previously built by Faithfull. He had been incumbent of Windsor, near Sydney, for ten years, and had also held a farm at Clifton. He was possessed of a strong personality: those having dealings with him being seldom left long in uncertainty as to his views and intentions. He brought with him his wife, daughter, niece and three sons, 3000 sheep, 200 cattle, horses, servants and plant. The frontispiece of this book is from an oil painting of the homestead, and is typical of the squatters' residences in early days.

Mrs. Docker and a niece are generally supposed to have been the first white ladies to cross the Murray, the date of their arrival there being in August, 1838, but it is also claimed, with some little reason, that Mrs. George Kinchington preceded them, as she crossed with her husband, four sons and a daughter in the previous June. Mr. George Kinchington, junr., who died near Yackandandah, September 27, 1914, aged 85, stated that he well remembered the crossing. The Murray was low at the time, and they were taken over in a canoe, and he clearly remembered being told at the time that a Mrs. Judith Brodribb had gone over the day before, on her way to Mr. Chisholm's station, at Myrrhee. Mr. Kinchington, senr., was on his way to Kergunna station, then recently formed by Messrs John Morrice, David Mackenzie, and Robert Wylde. He afterwards was employed at Bungowannah and assisted in the building of Dight's Mills in Melbourne, for Mr John Dight. This was early in the "forties." He returned to Bungowannah, for a time, and then took up Thirlingananga station, south of Yackandandah, which is still held by his descendants.

Mrs. Brodribb and her husband (till his death) remained on Mr. Chisholm's station. The widow still resided there when the run was sold to Macartney, and for some years longer, when she retired to Wangaratta, dying there about thirty years ago.

A reference to page 53 of "Letters from Victorian Pioneers" will, however, show that as early as the previous February, Mrs. John Hepburn had accompanied her husband across the Murray. He had been one of the first party of overlanders, and at the end of 1837, decided to take more cattle to Port Phillip. He took his family and Mr. John Hawdon, and two children went with him. They left Strathallen in the county of St. Vincent, New South Wales, on January 18th, 1838. At the Murray, at Albury, they fell in with Messrs Coghill, Bowman and Hamilton, crossing together, and reached the Goulburn on March 1, 1838. This is the earliest record the writer has been able to find to date.

Mr. David Reid, a son of Dr. Reid, of Bungonia, crossing the Murrumbidgee in July, at Gundagai, with 500 cattle, claimed to have arrived at the Ovens on the day that Docker settled at Bontherambo. He selected Carara-gar-mungie, better known as Reid's creek, which extended over the Reid's creek valley. He is believed to have explored much of the Dividing Range, and is credited with being the first white man to ride over the site of Beechworth. In 1845, he purchased the Lower Yack-andandah station, and had a water mill erected there, from which the station became better known as "the Mill station." This mill was built by Luke Everitt, the first builder and undertaker whose name has been recorded in this district.

On the outbreak of the gold diggings, Mr. Reid sold his Yackandandah holding and bought Barnawatha run. Here he built the stone house known as "The Hermitage," now occupied by Mr. J. Whitehead. Still later he again sold out, and took up selections north of the Murray, where he died in May, 1906, aged 85. He represented the Ovens district in Parliament for some years, and took an active part in public affairs.

The Happy Valley run, near Myrtleford, is also said to have been formed at this time by William Forlonge, for the firm of W. and A. Forlonge.

While this settlement was taking place on the Ovens, many runs were being taken up further east. Three ship-mates and fellow teachers at a Sydney Grammar School—John Morrice, David Mackenzie, and Robert Wylde—



look Kergunnia (a camp) on the upper reaches of the Kiewa river. James Roberts proceeded further south and formed Dederang, while A. K. Smith, from Kyeamba, on the Murrumbidgee, acting for Thomas Walker, formed Tangambalanga, or Tanya-ma-lanya, opposite the present township of Kiewa. Tangamabalanga is said to have meant "a white-clawed lobster." A. K. Smith was better known as "Kyeamba Smith," from his association with that run.

Charles H. Barber, or Barbour, a nephew of Hamilton Hume, the explorer, took Gundowring ("gundowringa" meaning a camping place) next south. Colonel David Johnston, from the Murrumbidgee, with his brother, purchased Bethanga from William Roberts. Then James Roberts formed Bungoona, or Bungonia, on the left bank of the Mitta ("bungoona" meaning a sandy creek.) About the same time Tallangatta (clear water) higher up the river, was secured by Thomas Walker. This run, when first formed, covered a very large area, including all the country from which, in later years, Annandale, Razorback, Farleyer, Weem, and Kangaroo Ground were formed. James Redhall had taken over the management of Thologolong. Donald McLeod settled at Burrowye (towards the east), so named from its position regarding Thologolong.

Walwa (a place of waters), with Towong, were taken by Richard and William Guy, or Guise, of Cunningdrow, while Rowland Shelley took Gravel's Plains for his brother George. To the south, Charles Cowper formed Carryong, Cunyong, or Kangyong, on the Courang creek, between Thoughtla and Adgie. He also formed a heifer run on what is now Beringama. James Hassall settled at Nariel, nearby, while Adgie was taken by him in conjunction with J. J. Howell, from Burrowa.

Still further south, in the Omeo district, a squatter named Hyland, or Ireland, had settled west of Lake Omeo, and Parslow is said to have been at Cobungra, though there is some doubt whether the run was not taken up first by Wells Brothers, who held it in 1842. This was a very large run, at the head of the Victoria river, afterwards divided into East and West blocks. It is also said that Bynnomungie and Bundaramungie, adjoining, were both formed in this year, but no record of the persons responsible has so far been found.

North of the Murray, several holdings date from this year. Mackenzie and Wylde, two of the owners of Kergunnia, formed Woomargama (from "wombariga"—a native cherry) run, between Ten Mile creek, and Mullengandra. John Hay (afterwards Sir John) took Welaregang, opposite Tintaldra, covering an extensive range of country. He later became well-known as a politician, and represented the Murray district for some years in Parliament. As early as the next year, he addressed a meeting at the Murray crossing, on the subject of "Free Trade."

James Osborne, from Illawarra, was in possession of Coppabella, and W. A. Brodribb had formed Mannus (mustered ground) run, which he held but a few months. Terence Aubrey Murray is said to have already secured Jingellie north, which is shown on very early maps as "Murray's station." Donald McLeod, of Burrowye, then took up the small Talmalmo run for one of his stockmen named Abraham Miller, from whom the well-known "Abraham's Bosom," on the Upper Murray road obtained its name.

William and Richard Guise also took up Bringem-brong (red kangaroo or red ant-hill), and Khancoban, but do not appear to have fully stocked either. Matthew and William Hervey, better known as Hervey Bros., were in possession of Indi (a water-plant) run, though they are said not to have been the first to occupy it. William Hervey took up his residence there. Weatherall was still in charge at Howlong, managing for Hawdon. Johann Pabst, from Leipsic, one of the earliest German settlers, took up his residence at Ten Mile creek, in the employ, it is said, of T. H. Bardwell and his brother-in-law, T. H. Mate. In after years, Pabst was mailman for a considerable section of the road, and became such a well-known figure in the district that when a name was required for the township, it was called "Germanton," chiefly from his long residence there. Townsend's map of 1852, shows the township reserve as "Germans." The name has lately been changed to Holbrook.

John Pierce, afterwards the owner of Greg Greg run, is now first heard of, being employed as stockman by Mrs. Mitchell, of Mungabareena. Hobbie Elliott had reformed the Battery Mount run, abandoned by Dutton; it was already acquiring the name "Tabletop," by which it has



been so long known. There is no definite record of settlement lower down the river than Howlong, nor back from the river, except as mentioned. Still there is little doubt that much of the country as far as the Edwards river was being prospected, if not occupied.

Sturt, the Crown Lands Commissioner, mentions having ridden over much of it, and one would suppose from his narrative that it must have been in the course of his duties marking out the boundaries of the various holdings.

Mackenzie, also, shortly after, describes his forming a station 100 miles west of Woomargama.

The Murray crossing place was becoming known as a suitable site for a town, and some demand had already arisen for building sites there. Robert Brown had added to his first hut a well built slab building for which he obtained a license from the Yass officials. Near the end of the year, Mr. Thomas Scott Townsend, a Government surveyor, was engaged in surveying a township at the crossing, and marked out much of the lower part of the present municipality into suitable allotments. Mr. Townsend had been connected with the Survey Department for some years and later was entrusted with the task of fixing the boundary between New South Wales and Port Phillip, by marking a line from Cape Howe, to the nearest tributary of the Murray.

Townsend became Surveyor General, but the worries of his responsible position soon injured his health, and he retired. He returned to the Old Country for the remainder of his days. It is said that his health had suffered in the first place from ill-treatment he had received from bushrangers, who for some reason are said to have stripped him and tied him on an ant-hill, and when rescued he was in a precarious condition.

Towards the end of the year, Mr. A. A. Huon returned to Campbelltown and brought thence his wife (a sister of Robert Brown), her father, and sister; the latter soon after married Mr. Charles Huon. The father, Edward Brown, remained at the crossing with his son, till the latter removed to Collendina, in 1845. Edward Brown then bought out Barrett, the blacksmith, but two years later sold the business and also went to Collendina.

Shortly after that he bought Brown's Springs run from A. A. Huon, then the owner of Gerogery. Brown transferred in a few years to Keith Petrie, and he to Thos. H. Mate, who changed the name to Brae's Springs, by which it is at present known.

Many reports show that the drought continued throughout this year (1838), and Huon was again able to cultivate the Wodonga Lagoon. Several travellers mention the difficulty caused by the want of rain, and most stockowners found it necessary to keep strictly to the banks of the streams, and often to rest their stock for considerable periods wherever fodder could be found. November 2nd was set apart by proclamation, as "a day of fasting and prayer for rain."



## CHAPTER XIII.

Despite or perhaps because of the deplorable state of the Colony, we find that with the beginning of 1839 there was no slackening of the wave of travelling stock, and the demand for good country became even more keen. Several runs as at first formed had very ill-defined boundaries, and now the titles began to be severely enquired into and subdivisions made where they could not be substantiated.

The early comers took up country with no regard to area, generally claiming all that they could persuade later arrivals that they owned. In the angle between the Ovens and Murray rivers, we find no less than three fresh holdings formed from country originally supposed to be included in Bontherambo. These were "Boorahaman," taken by Joseph Boulds and his three sons; "Bremm or the Junction," at the confluence of the rivers, probably by Michael O'Dea, who certainly held it in 1844, as shown by the "Port Phillip Gazette" at the time, and "Ulina," nearer the present Chiltern, by Jason Withers.

With the commencement of this year, the overland mail became a weekly event, and we have accounts which show that travellers between the capitals have become frequent. Even at this early day, we hear of some that "were not on business bent." Lady Franklin, the wife of the then Governor of Tasmania, who was later one of the party which gave their lives in the cause of Arctic exploration, travelled overland from Melbourne to Sydney, staying here and there to visit anything of note near the route. She ascended the range just south of the present Barnawatha railway station for a last view of the Murray Valley, and this has since been known as "Lady Franklin Mt." She had her own vehicle and servants, and was therefore enabled to avoid the rough accommodation usual at the roadside inns of the day. Her Ladyship reached Sydney in April. The "Sydney Gazette," of May 28th, has the following paragraph of a further journey she undertook: "Lady Franklin left Sydney by the 'Tamar' on a visit to Maitland, accompanied by

Major Nunn and Capt. Christie, of the Mounted Police. She did not expect to return to Van Diemen's Land before June 12th."

Mr. E. P. S. Sturt having resigned his position as Crown Lands Commissioner, Mr. Henry Bingham was appointed in his place with his office at Tumut, though his nearest post town is given in the "Gazette" as Yass.

Commissioner Bingham, when travelling, was always dressed in full regimentals, with sword, etc., and accompanied by mounted troopers, and any amount of frill. He became the point of many anecdotes, and lines, such as follow, were the source of much amusement to the rising generation.

"Commissioner B., when you are out on the spree,  
With your Border Mounted Police.  
You think, by the Lord, you are loved and adored,  
Like an Arabic Shiek, at the head of his horde;  
You silly old 'Justice of Peace.'"

The Colony, having shortly before been divided into nine squatting districts, we find the part we are dealing with included in "The Murrumbidgee," and the boundaries are given as follows:—"On the north and west, the Murrumbidgee river, from its junction with the Murray to the Australian Alps; on the south by the Murray, and a line bearing south-east, including the lower two-thirds of the Ovens river and passing just south of Lake Omeo, to the boundary of the Manaro district."

In September, the boundaries of Port Phillip were defined as: "That portion of New South Wales south of the 36th degree of S. latitude, and between the 141st and 146th degrees of East longitude." Thus a line drawn approximately from Corowa, due west to the South Australian border, and another due south from Corowa to the sea, would represent the northern and eastern boundaries.

Corowa is a native name derived from "Curra," or "Gurra," a pine tree, as pines were common there, and from them the blacks were accustomed to obtain the resin (curra or gurra) with which they fixed the handles of their weapons. Old maps show that the native name of



the site of the present township was "Dum-narran-gawah," while the show ground hill was "Goold-marra."

The boundaries above mentioned left a large portion of the eastern Gippsland unattached, and though generally considered by the settlers to be part of the Murrumbidgee district, and so under the Commissioner of Yass, that gentleman was careful to disclaim any responsibility in connection with it.

New land regulations also had a considerable effect on the development of the country. The price of land in New South Wales was raised to 12/- per acre, which caused a falling off in revenue from £60,000 in 1838, to £12,000, in 1839.

These regulations also fixed the price of land in Port Phillip at £1 per acre, and none was allowed to be sold either by auction or after survey under that figure. Thus commenced a discrimination between the different portions of the Colony which caused much animosity as long as Victoria remained a part of the mother province. The excuse for the discrimination appears to have been the large claims made by early settlers in districts almost entirely cut off, by distance and the want of roads, from official supervision, and the wish, openly expressed by the authorities, to discourage settlement outside the bounds of police supervision.

About the same time another Act was passed "to restrain the unauthorised occupation of Crown lands, and defray the expense of Border Police." Under this stock taxes were fixed at  $\frac{1}{2}$ d per head for sheep,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d for cattle and 3d for horses, payable half-yearly.

Irregularities in the issue of Grazing Licenses, the want of a limit to the area held by one person on one license, except the number of stock he owned or claimed to possess and frequent changes of regulations, led to great abuses.

There was nothing to prevent anyone taking up as many areas as he liked on one license, and hence we find that with over 700 stations registered in New South Wales, the whole revenue from Grazing Licenses was but £60. In the following year, with an increase of 100 in the number of runs, the revenue from this source fell further to only £20.

The honest squatter who improved his run, if in time of drought he either lost or was compelled to remove his stock, was liable to have his lease forfeited on the evidence of any informer—the latter often supplanting the rightful owner at no cost to himself. The Commissioners used large discrimination, but false evidence frequently resulted in the first lessee being displaced after spending considerable amounts. A class of landsharks soon appeared and levied heavy toll on the squatter as the price of peaceful possession. One squatter, in the Ovens district, relates that these men gave him more annoyance than the natives, who were especially bad in the neighbourhood during the first years of his residence there.

The squatter was taxed to maintain a body of Mounted Police, but many complaints were made of the fewness of their visits to the outlying parts of their districts and to their almost invariable absence when required. From the smallness of their numbers and the extent of their patrol, they were necessarily confined almost entirely to the main road in their peregrinations, unless they left it to visit a dilatory squatter who had neglected to pay his stock tax.

One well-known pioneer in the Ovens district, made a bitter complaint to the Government "that his station buildings had been burnt, his cattle dispersed, his stores destroyed and one of his men killed by the blacks," and the answer to his complaint was, "that as he had voluntarily chosen to settle beyond the boundaries of the police, he must take the consequences," and this although at that time he was paying a considerable assessment for the purpose of obtaining police protection.

The force supposed to control the area between Port Phillip and the Murray was but twenty troopers, under the command of Major Nunn and Capt. Christie. Camps were formed at the river crossings, and within a short time appear to have been largely availed of by travellers in search of accommodation and sustenance when detained by flood or other cause. Evidently this was one of the perquisites of the police sergeant in charge, and the custom, while helping travellers, also enabled the police to, in some measure, know the characters of those on the road.



At the Murray Crossing, four troopers were stationed, under Sergeant Leary, who was not long after either joined or superseded by Sergeant Rose. The writer has been unable to obtain any definite particulars as to the camp and officers at the Ovens Crossing, except that Mr. Holway, who kept an hotel at Greta, in 1855, is said to have been the first senior constable there.

An extract from "The Australian Newspaper," of June 29, 1838, will show that some time before the settlers had endeavoured to have the matter improved, and that at times temporary increases were made to the police force. A petition had been presented to the Governor, from squatters near Port Phillip, regarding the depredations of the aborigines, and this extract is taken from the answer:—

"That in order to afford the settlers in those districts all the protection in his Excellency's power, he despatched a party, consisting of an officer and twelve men of the Mounted Police, to the river Ovens as soon as he heard of the late massacre of Mr. Faithfull's men, and that this party has since been increased to twenty-one, so that with the seven that were originally at Melbourne, the party of one officer and twenty-eight mounted policemen, independently of the military force which, by a recent addition of twelve, now amounts to forty-four; and that a discretionary power has been given to the police magistrate at Melbourne to cause parties of infantry to advance, if necessary, into the interior. I am also instructed to inform you that it is the Governor's further intention to establish posts at convenient distances along the road from Yass to Port Phillip, in order to keep open communication, and that a permanent addition will be made to the Mounted Police for this purpose."

## CHAPTER XIV.

On October 10, 1839, the first sale of township allotments in this district was held in Sydney. The lots offered consisted of twelve half-acre sections in the town of Albury, all of which found purchasers at from eight to twelve times the upset price.

We have also about the same time the first record of a political meeting being held in the district, when Mr. John Hay, of Welaregang, addressed a number of the residents at Albury, on the subject of "Free Trade."

Another event which should be recorded, is the earliest birth of a white child on the Upper Murray. This was the first child born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mason, of the Beggarie station—at that time the nearest holding to the source of the Murray. The child, a boy, was christened Robert James, but unfortunately survived but two years, being, at his death, interred on the station, the spot being marked by the planting of a willow tree still standing (1919). Mr. Mason, soon after, sold Beggarie, and purchased Maracket, and when he sold that run, in 1854, took up a small run near Greta.

It is generally understood that the first white girl born in the district was a daughter of Mr. A. A. Huon, born October 16, 1840, now Mrs. Armstrong, of Suva, Fiji (1917).

The drought so frequently mentioned, continued throughout the whole year, and many mentions of it are made by early writers. Provisions rose to extreme prices: wheat, 20/- per bushel, and other things in proportion. Mr. Thomas Chirnside relates the difficulties he met with as follows:—

"I arrived in Sydney two months later (March, 1839) and was much disappointed with the poor appearance of the country. There had been a series of unusually dry seasons, butcher's meat being so poor, looked so black and unwholesome that I could not touch it. No vegetables to be had at any price. I started up country to invest in sheep, and on my way to the Murrumbidgee, did not



travel a single mile without seeing dead horses and working bullocks. Hay or corn was not to be had at the inns. I saw upon stations where cattle were eager to get a little water, then crawl to a water hole, all but dried up, and there get bogged and leave their carcasses where there were hundreds of others. Besides the unfavourable seasons, the country was overrun with bushrangers. Neither life nor property were safe, not even in the villiages. When travelling with the mail, I found at every inn, horsemen and gigs waiting to accompany the mail, for protection. I bought sheep on the Murrumbidgee in April, returned to Sydney, bought a dray and eight bullocks, with a view of taking my sheep to Port Phillip. Before getting to Berrima, a distance of 80 miles, six of my bullocks died of starvation, and in consequence of thousands of sheep dying from catarrh, I changed my mind and left my sheep at the Murrumbidgee. I bought cattle and took them overland to Adelaide, found two of the stations on the Murrumbidgee, only 70 miles below the Melbourne road, had been deserted for want of feed, and from there to Adelaide the territory appeared to me unavailable for any purpose."

Mr. Edward Bell says that "flour was selling at £60 per ton; for some weeks our food was confined to beef and milk, and a little rice."

Demarr, in his "Adventures in Australia," shows that after reaching the Murray at Albury, he travelled his stock direct by the site of Beechworth, to the King river, from want of feed nearer the Murray.

Charles Cropper, also, bringing his sheep from Manaro to Laceby, on the Ovens, was so delayed by the want of feed, which he could only find in the hills, that he was compelled to shear his sheep on the creek now known as "The Woolshed," the name being derived from a rough bough shed he erected there for the purpose.

Charles Hutton says, "that he was compelled to travel his sheep as far as the Campaspe, there being no feed further east for stock."

Messrs C. B. Hall and Alfred Thomson, also mention the bad state of the country at this date.

Matters being so bad generally, it is not surprising that we find every available spot now secured. The Wahgunyah run was now formed by John Foord, George Con-

quest, and J. Crisp. The name has been derived from native words meaning "Beware of ganyah, or camp," in allusion to the large number of aborigines generally camped in the neighbourhood and towards Rutherglen. Others say that it is a rough imitation of the cry "war-gun") of a crow. Mr. J. J. Baylis says, on the authority of aborigines, that it was from "wah," mud and "gun-yah," camp or house. Poord was a very enterprising man, and a few years later placed a punt on the river, and in the "fifties" established a private township, in opposition to a Government survey a mile higher up the river. The native name of the latter site was "Boolga-whirr," but the surveyor who laid out the township, suggested "Carlisle" as more euphonious.

Gooramadda (a grassy place), adjoining Wahgunyah, on the east, was next formed by Lindsay Brown and Thomas Clarke, both prominent members of the community for many years.

George Hume Barber, or Barbour, a nephew of the explorer, reformed Barnawatha, which Slack had abandoned in 1837. Capt. William Fury Baker, from Jerriekona, County Argyle, took up the Barambogie run, covering the site of Chiltern, and extending to near Beechworth. This was a large run afterwards better known as Eldorado, and eventually divided into Eldorado East and West.

Capt. Baker is said to have been a bluff, good-natured sailor, whose free and easy style did not always suit some of his more fastidious neighbours. One of them meeting him one day, a discussion arose anent their respective boundaries, and waxing warm, the Captain at last said to the other, "that he had always understood that he was at least a gentleman," when quickly came the answer, "None ever suspected it of you, sir." The sequel is not related, but we will charitably hope that there was no breach of the peace.

Aimee A. Huon sold his Murra-murran-bong holding to Thomas Mitchell, and took up country north of the Murray. Mitchell also at this time formed the Lower Yackandandah run for his mother. This was the first purely sheep run formed in the north-east of Victoria, and in later years became known as the "Mill Station," when David Reid had the water mill built on the creek there.



William Bowman took up Woodaga, or Wooragee, as a heifer run, while higher up the Murray, Jingellie south was taken by Hervey Bros., who individually or together were at various times concerned in most of the runs on the upper river.

Cowper had fully established his heifer run on what is now Beringama (an ant-hill), and one named Smith had formed the Wabba (bronze-wing pigeon) station, south of Cudgewa. Tallandoon, on the Mitta, which for years appears as "Jallandoon" in the Government "Gazettes," was taken by Lockharte and Clarke. The former in later years was a well-known Crown Lands Commissioner.

John Redfern, of Redfern Bros., also formed "Yabba" (plenty talk), opposite Neorengong, at the same time. Tooth is also said to have formed the Kangaroo Ground station out of part of Tallangatta run, but the records are somewhat confusing regarding it. Hyland had settled just west of Lake Omeo, before May, but the writer has been unable to find the name of the run. Hin-nomungie must have included the country covered by this holding in later years.

Rowland Shelley also appears to have, in this year, formed an outstation of Tintaldra, under the name of Jirramul. This, a few years after, came into the possession of Mrs. Guise, when it appears in the "Gazettes" as "Toolry."

North of the Murray, Aimee A. Huon, who, as mentioned above, had sold his Murra-murran-bong holding to Mitchell, was joined by his brother, Charles. They took up the Gerogery (a magpie lark) run. The area they claimed is very uncertain, as it is known that they at various times, partially at least, stocked all the country on the Billabong as far as Bulgandra, including Walbundrie (hurt in the hip), Burrumbuttock, Brae's Springs, and it is said, Walla Walla (from "Wallan," a rock). Further east, Mullengandra (mullyan yandera, the home of an eagle) was settled by H. and J. Osborne, of Yack-andandah, in conjunction with A. Morrice, of Kergunnia, who had married a Miss Osborne.

Carabobala (a leatherhead honey-sucker) was taken by Elliot Heriot, who had previously been in charge of Dora Dora. While at the latter the natives were very

troublesome, and once the station was only saved by a vigorous defence, although the residents had the advantage of a warning from the chief of the tribe, who was more friendly than his fellows.

T. H. Bardwell had secured a portion of the Ten Mile creek run, east and south of the present township of Holbrook and which was later divided into No. 1 and 2 blocks, and is now represented by Annandale.

James Robinson had purchased Coppabella from Osborne, who first held it. Robinson came from Wollongong, and was the father of one son and seven daughters, most of whom married squatters in the district.

Jingellie North is said to have passed to Joseph Hawdon, though it is more than probable that it had been taken by Reid—well-known on the Murray as “Knowledgeable Reid.”

William Love is credited with having formed Mundaroo (a place of thunder) before this time, and Tooma (toomba, a large gum tree), was taken by James Garland, a brother-in-law of J. A. Broughton. Garland also purchased the Meragle holding, formed by Dr. Bell shortly before.

John Hay, a late arrival from Scotland, and no relation to the owner of Welaregang, now took possession of Khancoban, on the Swampy river, and became known as “Swampy Hay,” to distinguish him from his namesake at Welaregang, for whom he also managed that run.

On the west of the district, Charles Cropper, who held the Laceby run, south of the Murray, formed Brocklesby, which covered the site of Corowa. He had a partner named Thompson, and the station brand was “C&T,” being their initials.

They held the property but a short time and sold to Chapman. Cropper’s lagoon, at South Corowa, still preserves the name.

The only means of crossing the Murray at this time when high, was in a canoe made by James Gullifer, when at Bonegilla, and which, when leaving that place, he sold to Robert Brown, who placed it close to his house, near the Hume tree. This canoe was hollowed out of a red gum log, and did duty till 1845, when Brown replaced it with a punt. A correspondent writes that ultimately the dug-



out was washed from its moorings, and after travelling a considerable distance down the river, was stranded in a lagoon on Bungowannah, and became gradually silted up by the various floods. It was worked by a rawhide rope stretched across the river, and was therefore only available when the river was not in high flood. When the latter event occurred, the only means of communication for years was a light canoe worked by "Merriman," as mentioned before.

The embryo town at the Ovens crossing now began to be known as "Wangaratta," though not officially recognised under that name till at least ten years later. The name is said to have been derived from the abundance of cormorants in the neighbourhood. Mr. J. F. H. Mitchell, in his "Vocabulary of the Woradgery Language," gives "Wonga" as meaning a black cormorant, and "Barratta" a white or black cormorant, and thus "Wangaratta" may be a combination of the two.

It is also recorded that some settlement had taken place on the eastern bank of the river there. Bond, Rogers and Meldrum being given as the names of the first settlers.

Some attempt at the cultivation of wheat was made there, possibly by these early residents, but there is no definite record. Robert Brown soon after, if not as early as 1839, cultivated the flat now occupied by the Botanical Gardens at Albury.

It may interest some of my readers to know the ordinary routine of establishing a new station in this year. The following from the Rev. David Mackenzie's "Ten Years in Australia" explains the process:—

"Accompanied by two of my neighbours, I started in search of a station. Each of us was well mounted, and supplied with a blanket, quarts-pot, greatcoat, some provisions, tin quarts-pot, flint and steel, and hobbles for the horses. We also had a tomahawk and pocket compass. With our compass we steered our course by day, and with our tomahawk cut two or three sheets of bark in the evening, and made a comfortable shelter from the wind and rain during the night. Having hobbled our horses on some good feed near us, we made a fire against a dry log and prepared our frugal meal.

"We steered our course in the direction of the junction of the Murray and Murrumbidgee rivers, and nearly

midway between these streams. About 100 miles from our head station (Kergunnia probably), I found a place possessing all things necessary for a cattle station, with plenty of water, grass, etc., together with a large amount of open forest land, some without a tree, and ready for the plough. Mobs of wild cattle and naked blacks, were the only occupiers of this beautiful spot, of which I took possession—not in Her Majesty's name, but in my own. I then hastened back to my nearest station (probably Woomargama) and wrote to the District Commissioner of Crown Lands, describing the boundaries of my new station and applying for permission to occupy it.

"Then lest some other squatter might choose to follow my tracks, and afterwards pretend that he was the first discoverer, I at once returned with men, dray, tools, bullocks and provisions and commenced to build a hut for the men and a stockyard for the cattle. I pegged out near a deep lagoon an elevated spot for the hut, twenty by twelve feet, the height of the walls to be six feet. For this magnificent palace when finished, I engaged to pay the bush carpenters the sum of thirty shillings.

"Besides the stockmen, there were two hut keepers who had charge of supplies, provisions of wheat, tea sugar and salt for four or five months; steel mill, sieve, iron pots, spade, axe, saw, iron wedges, maul, bucket, milk-dish and beef cask, with the splendid thirty-shilling mansion—the sum total of their accommodation."

Meagre as the above accommodation would appear at the present day, it would then have been considered by many to be extravagant. Pioneers frequently contented themselves for long periods, with tents or even rough reed "mia-mias."

Some few settlers, not directly connected with the various runs, are known to have arrived in the district, but their names are not available. They were chiefly rough carpenters or other tradesmen, who were able to make a precarious living from the various requirements of the squatters.

The only professional man the writer has been able to trace at this early day, is a Dr. Ward, who settled at Albury, but after a short residence of a year or two was drowned at the crossing and buried on the site of the Chinese Camp of later years. A police sergeant and four troopers were stationed at Albury in 1839.



## CHAPTER XV.

We have now reached a date after which, for all practical historical account, a strong line of demarcation exists between portions of the district we are considering, on the north and south sides of the river. Late in 1839, the boundaries of Port Phillip were extended to cover all the territory now included in the great State of Victoria. The Murrumbidgee district of New South Wales accordingly became reduced in area to that lying between the two great rivers. Differing land regulations were applicable according as a run was situated north or south of the Murray.

Almost as soon as the new boundaries were fixed, and the disadvantages of the varying regulations perceived, an agitation began for a complete separation from the Mother Colony of all the territory of Port Phillip.

Thomas Scott Townsend, the Surveyor who had previously laid out the township of Albury, was instructed to define the eastern limit by surveying a line from Cape Howe to the nearest tributary of the Murray. Townsend set out this line after very extensive surveys, extending over extremely mountainous country, and ultimately decided that it fulfilled his instructions. Dispute however soon arose, fomented by those who claimed that he should have taken his line to a branch of the Murrumbidgee, which rises considerably nearer to Cape Howe, and then the province of Port Phillip would have included the rich district now known as "Riverina."

Thus commenced the dispute which has been hotly discussed from time to time ever since—the complete separation of Victoria from the Mother State. The dispute hinges on the part of the river to which the name 'Murray' should have been rightly applied at the time that Townsend received his instructions. In the first place the name was given by Sturt, in 1829, to that portion of the river which is below the mouth of the Murrumbidgee, but that it was very soon applied to the river above the junction, is shown by the text of the instructions given to Major Thos. Mitchell, the Surveyor General, in March,

1836, by Governor Bourke. After directing him to trace the Darling to its junction with the Murray, the sixth paragraph states: "If, as expected, the Darling joins the Murray at or near the point indicated by Capt. Sturt you will from thence pass up the Murray to the point where it is joined by the Murrumbidgee, and thence **will begin to proceed up the Murray**, either embarked on its waters, or travelling along its banks, as far as you may find it practicable and expedient."

In later years, Mitchell took the side of those who contended that Townsend had taken the nearest source of "the Hume" as his objective, as distinguished from the Murray, and that he did this in spite of having in his own official map of his explorations, applied the name "Murray" to the river he crossed at Howlong, in Nov. 1836, and although his map does not define the course of the river between this point and that at which he left the stream when he turned S.W. for the coast of Port-land.

Even as late as 1912, the Victorian Government caused a notice to be served on the New South Wales authorities, making claim to the whole area between the two rivers but one can hardly imagine that after so many years, and the expenditure of such large sums in railways, etc., and its general development, such an alteration of boundaries is feasible or likely to be realised.

The new land regulations raised the price of lands south of the Murray to not less than £1 per acre, while it remained at 12/- in the Mother Colony. Sales by auction were also suspended over the same area.

Melbourne was becoming an important town, and settlement had spread over most of Victoria. The settlers were a body of energetic men with large capital invested in their holdings, and rightly claimed that they were entitled to some consideration and voice in the management of such an important territory, so far from the seat of Government in Sydney. Meetings were held at frequent intervals, and one of the most prominent of the speakers was Mr. C. H. Ebden, so early concerned in the fortunes of this particular district. Not, however, till two years later was the request complied with.

Most of the country had been parcelled out into various runs, and with little opportunity left for squatters to increase their acreage, they were perforce compelled to improve the carrying capacity of their holdings by any



means in their power. The carriage of stores and necessities to such distant places proved a great strain, and in many places attempts were made to provide some of their wants by cultivation. Stock values were already showing signs of depression, and expenses had to be cut down to the lowest limit.

An official return shows that at the commencement of 1840, no less than 1740 acres were under cultivation between the Murrumbidgee and the Ovens. Wheat had risen as high as £2 per bushel, when brought from the older districts, so that it is not surprising to read of travellers camping for weeks waiting for the ripening of a crop, in the hope of being able to purchase a portion for their daily needs. Every settler had his steel mill (generally known as "a bunging mill") fixed to the nearest tree, and the first duty of the day was to grind the portion required for immediate wants.

By this time the feverish rush for new holdings was nearly exhausted in this district, chiefly from the occupation of practically all the easily approachable and suitable land, and there are frequent records of stockowners being compelled to pass beyond the Ovens river, before they could reach suitable spots for settlement. We find, however, new runs still being formed during this year.

William Wyse, the pioneer of the district, having been with Capt. McDonald, at Noorengong for two years, determined to strike out for himself, hoping to obtain a share of the profits then promised by grazing. He took up the Mitta Mitta run, south of Yabba, on the Mitta river. This was a valuable property which later was subdivided into three, known as Mitta Mitta No. 1, No. 2, and West. Wyse held the two latter till 1855, when he retired north of the Murray.

Pinsen joined Roberts, at Dederang, early in this year.

There are two maps extant of the Upper Murray, dated 1840; one is by Wyld, and the other shows the track of Count Streleski, from Port Philip to Sydney. Both show the Adgie run, west of Corryong, while the latter is given as Cowper's. Further south, Nariel is shown as Smith's, while the earliest "Gazette" notice of it by the name of "Nariel," is as late as 1847. At this time the lease was in the name of Hassall, who is generally supposed to have first formed it.

On these maps we find many names spelt differently from our present usage: "Tuma" for "Tooma," "Courang" for "Corryong," "Manes" for "Mannus," "Nowong" for "Towong," "Maragel" for "Meragle," "Jingella" and "Jingelle" for "Jingellie," "Omio," "Welaregong," "Tamburumba," "Bura," and "Mt. Gibbs" for the "Gibbo."

The name "Millewa" is placed on the Murray at Howlong, while the Ovens is marked "Burwang."

North of the Murray it is known that Burrumbuttock, Bulgandra, with probably Walbundrie and Goombargona (native dog excreta) as well as part of Mahonga had been partially stocked by the Huons, though their efforts were greatly interfered with by the want of water during the prevailing drought.

More westerly, David Reid endeavoured to form Quat Quatta or "Quart Quarta" (plenty fish), but was foiled by the absence of water, and the same fate met his attempt to form Coreen (from "goreen," charcoal) further west.

Some of the older holdings were changing hands: Matthew Pearce had replaced Weatherall at Howlong, having purchased it from John Hawdon; Thomas Vicars Foote (known to the natives as "Mundowie," that being their name for "a foot"), had succeeded Hobbie Elliott at Tabletop, in partnership with Patterson.

Charles and Henry Fowler were in treaty for Cumbaroona, then held by Jobbins. The run included Mugwee and Fowler's Swamp at that time. Thomas Shelley was in charge of the small Bowna holding. He was not related to the family so often mentioned in connection with the Upper river. His name is perpetuated in Shelley's Flat," near the Hawksview Bridge.

William Lester had formed Morebringer, west of Bungowannah, which it is said David Reid had previously tried to secure.

Chapman is said to have succeeded Cropper and Thomson, at Brocklesby, late in the year.

Easterly, Mannus had been sold by W. A. Brodribb to John Stewart, and it is probable that Sydney G. Watson was settling on that portion of the run, afterwards known as "Watson's Meadows." Thomas Richards had formed Opossum Point, east of Tooma, while Burra and Tumberumba were both in the hands of Campbell of Duntroon.



## CHAPTER XVI.

The disastrous drought which had so long afflicted the country, continued throughout the year 1840. Most settlers having made no provision for the storage of water, their stock were confined to the frontage of the river, and the few creeks still running. A marked increase of disease among travelling stock is recorded, and there are many complaints by "overlanders" of the prevalence of "catarrh" among the sheep, by which heavy losses were sustained.

Scab also was rampant, and within a short period became very prevalent throughout Victoria. Almost every settler mentions this terrible disease, which before its eradication years later, caused enormous losses of stock, besides the expenditure of much labour and money. New South Wales was not declared free till August, 1866.

Strangely enough considering the prevailing drought, we find several records of "foot-rot" in the mountain valleys. Many squatters were compelled to abandon their holdings and take their chance with their sheep on the more arid plains.

One overlander, who crossed the Murray in 1840, with stock, relates that, "Finding that disease had been spread along the road by the stock of Messrs D—— and D——, we turned aside and ascended the Broken river almost to its source, and then we came upon an elevated plateau almost at the foot of the Alps, where we settled."

He also mentions the troubles of another squatter who, after losing 600 sheep by the natives, had catarrh introduced into his flock by some travelling stock which camped near his yards, and lost all that he had rescued from the natives and left the district a ruined man.

Many murders and outrages by the blacks are recorded at this time, besides the wanton destruction of stock. One settler near the Ovens had all but seven out of 3000 cattle either killed or dispersed by them. It was a common occurrence for a body of them to attack the shepherds and drive off the sheep to a secluded place, there to kill or maim them all.

These losses were the more severely felt because the extremely high prices which had been current during some years, were still maintained, though there were not wanting indications of the depression which was experienced two or three years later.

The late Sir W. T. Clarke used to relate that he bought 400 cattle in this year at £10 per head to place on a Victorian run. These, with their increase, numbering 22000, he sold in 1849 for £3300, on bills at one, two and three years without interest. Also sheep he bought in Tasmania for £2 per head, he sold in 1844, at 3/- to 3/6 per head.

Wages by this time had risen considerably, shepherds and hutkeepers getting £1 per week and rations, and the salaries of overseers and managers were in proportion. Fortunately for sheepowners, wool fetched high prices, a sale of a much damaged consignment being recorded in Melbourne at 1/6 per lb.

The year 1841 opened most inauspiciously for stock-owners, being very hot and dry through the summer. In April a fair rain fell, but the hopes of the residents were not fulfilled the following winter being one of the driest known.

Before the end of the year, the Murray was little more than a chain of waterholes, and again heavy losses of stock were sustained. There is little record of fresh settlement in the district during this year, but still there was some advance in its development. Mr. John Dight completed a small water mill on a branch of the Murray at Bungowannah, but from its position it could only be used when the river was high. As far as is known it was reserved for station use, and was not worked for public benefit.

David Reid made another attempt to form Coreen, with success, while Thomas Hyland, better known as "Hyland of Boro," settled at Quat Quatta. James Robinson now brought his family from Woollongong to Coppabella, and it is said that John Hay, of Khancoban, took up the adjoining Ournie, or Ouranee (from "whorn-ayee," a small black wasp, or "Oornee," a platypus) run, but it is probable that this action should be connected with the following year, when he was about to marry Miss Robinson, of Coppabella.



The father of the late Granville R. M. Collins, well-known to all through the district, is often credited with having preceded Hay in this formation, but the records are doubtful.

Dr. Creighton, an uncle of early holders of Round Hill run, settled at Albury, and was allowed by Mrs. Mitchell to reside at what is now called Doctor's Point. He lived there greatly respected and loved for his charitable disposition toward all in need, till 1847, when his death was regretted by all who knew him. His groom was a black man named "Jimmie the Doctor," and is still remembered by some of the oldest inhabitants.

The year 1842 opened even more gloomily than its predecessor. The long continued drought was increased in gravity by a great financial depression, which was suddenly brought about by the complete collapse of the inflated value of stock of all kinds. Practically the whole community was insolvent and business was completely at a standstill.

At this juncture, Henry O'Brien, of Douro, near Yass, proposed "boiling down" to save the squatter from total loss. Sheep had fallen to 1/- per head, and cattle were only worth from 5/- to 10/- each.

O'Brien had formed Douro as early as 1821, and soon after took up Jugiong for his sheep. He was a very shrewd business man and took an active part in exploration about the Murrumbidgee. He was able to render much assistance to Sturt when he set out to survey the river's course. He was always on friendly terms with the blacks, and maintained that they were trustworthy and easily managed and employed if treated properly.

In February, the Murray almost stopped running, and the late Mr. James Mitchell, of Tabletop, was wont to relate having walked across the river at the site of the Albury waterworks without getting over his shoes in water.

At this time there was a permanent population of five men and two women at Albury. Robert Brown was evidently not dismayed by the general depression, as he was building the "Hume Inn," the first opened in Albury, and went into occupation on his return from Sydney in April, after his marriage.

Within a few months he took up the Collendina run, opposite the junction of the Ovens with the Murray. The name is said to mean "the junction of the waters," or "swirling waters," and very appropriate to the situation. This was then a very large run, including the country out of which Bull Plain, Savernake, Cowpastures, Sanger's Mistake, Sandy Ridges, and it is said Burryjaa and even Kentucky were formed later.

C. and A. Huon were then in possession of Mabonga, but it is doubtful if this was more than a temporary occupation. John Hay, from Khancoban, had taken up his residence at Ournie, and Summers had formed the small Maracket run, between Talmalmo and Jingellie.

South of the Murray, James Day took up a large tract of country south and west of Omeo, and extending to the main range of the Australian Alps, for Edward Crooke, under the name of "Hinnomungie." This had partially at least been occupied by Hyland, in 1839. Crooke soon after obtained an interest in several neighbouring runs.

Wells Bros. were established on Cobungra, which they are credited with having first formed.

Laurence Struilby has also left a record of his forming, in this year, a station between the Little river and Mitta Mitta, for James Black, of Burrangong. This was the commencement of Mullindolingong holding. The mountains at the head of the Little river are shown as the Burrangong Mts.

In February, 1842, fresh regulations regarding the sale of land came into force in Port Phillip, the system of auction sales was restored, and all lands placed on the same footing as regards price, while they were allowed to be secured by purchase before survey—a boon previously denied to those settled south of the Murray.

At the same time an Act was passed giving Port Phillip five representatives in the Legislative Council at Sydney, and another enacted that "half the cost of the police, the making of roads, bridges, etc., should be raised by local taxation."

This latter measure was extremely unpopular, and indignation meetings were held in many places, when it was



pointed out that while the Government received a large revenue from the sale of land, its contribution to local wants was very small.

C. H. Ebdon was one of the foremost in the movement, and when the election took place, was returned at the head of the poll. He soon found, however, that while nominally they were supposed to have a strong voice in legislation regarding Port Phillip, in reality they were ignored by the Members elected by the rest of the Colony, and when the time came for re-election in 1844, he refused to stand. He spoke openly of his reasons, and said that "he would not submit to being merely a dummy," or words to that effect. He was replaced by Sir Thomas Mitchell, the Surveyor General. The latter was not allowed to hold the position long, as it was declared to be inconsistent with his official position.

A strong movement was made to procure separation from the Mother Colony, which was never allowed to rest until completely successful in 1851.

We also for the first time find that the boundary of Port Phillip on the east is officially defined as a "straight line from Cape Howe to the nearest source of the Murray." From Townsend's plan, laid before the Legislative Council, he does not appear to have completed his delimitation till September, 1844, at which time his report was rendered.

## CHAPTER XVII.

Early in 1843, the territory of Port Phillip was divided into four districts—Gippsland, Murray, Westernport and Portland Bay. The Murray, which included the Ovens District, was bounded by the river Goulburn on the west and south, the Murray on the north and north-east, and the Dividing Range on the south-east. Mr. H. W. H. Smythe was appointed Crown Lands Commissioner.

The "Port Phillip Gazette," of January 26th, 1843, announces the establishment of a post office at the Ovens crossing, but does not give the name of the postmaster. This office did not become officially known as "Wangaratta" till 1853, ten years later.

The records of the Sydney Post Office also show that the same facility was extended to Albury, where Robert Brown is believed to have acted as postmaster, it being known that he held the position in the following year. The writer knows of a letter still in existence bearing the postmark "Albury," and dated in October, 1843. As usual at the time it was marked "Prepaid," adhesive stamps not then being generally used. For some reasons this office was closed in 1846, apparently when Brown went to live at Collendina. It was, however, re-established in 1847, but the name of the officer in charge is not given.

In spite of the drought, Robert Brown is known to have grown a heavy crop near the Hume inn, in this year,

The long drought, and over speculation had brought about serious depression. Sheep and cattle were almost valueless, and were often given away to anyone who would trouble about them. Wages, which a few years before were high enough to permit the worker to save considerable amounts, now fell as low as 5/- per week, with a poor ration consisting of meat, black sugar, a little tea, and a peck of unground wheat weekly. Money was very scarce, and as much as 20% interest was frequently asked for loans. Many graziers were completely ruined,



while those dependent on them were compelled to eke out a scanty existence by practising any trade they could turn their hands to. Bushranging flourished all over the country—so many expirees and ticket-of-leave men being out of employment. Still some good tradesmen were working honourably, and even at this early date, were becoming well-known for the quality of their products. Of such were "Old George," the bootmaker, who lived near Barnawatha, and made "half Wellingtons" for the young squatters and others for many miles around. John Fisher another bootmaker, is still remembered by some of the oldest inhabitants of Albury, for the same reason.

Stores were carried on by Clarke, at the Ovens, and his competitors, Bond, Rogers and Meldrum, across the river. At Albury, Robert Brown, and "Thomas the Jew" flourished. James Wyse had built a second inn (:"The Commercial") on the site of the present Chinese camp, and a few small residences had been erected. Many of the settlers were replacing their first rough dwellings by more substantial and pretentious slab buildings, generally with bark roofs. The latter, though by no means ornamental, were cool and rainproof, and with little care lasted for many years, and until the era of galvanised iron arrived were almost universal.

We have no record of fresh settlement at this date, and the only events calculated to break the monotony of the lives of the residents were the occasional scratch race meetings arranged whenever a few gathered together, with time on their hands.

The Rev. John Dunmore Lang, the well-known writer and politician, passing through in this year, laments the absence of all opportunities for instruction and religious services. The settlers were under the necessity of travelling either to Melbourne or Goulburn for the christening of their children or other ceremony unless fortunate enough to obtain the services of a clergyman passing through the district from one capital to the other.

There is no definite record of any fresh runs being formed during the year. The depression was too great to allow of any outlay not absolutely necessary, and mention of this distressing time is seldom found among old writers.

The early autumn of 1844, saw the complete break of the great drought which had so long oppressed the country, and as has been noted on other occasions, the break was soon followed by floods in the big rivers. A fresh impetus to settlement was soon apparent, and much of the Lower Murray was then settled.

Almost simultaneously with the break of the drought, a fresh set of land regulations came into force. Under these it was required that a grazing license, which cost £10, should cover but one station, and that the area should not be more than 25 square miles unless the Commissioner should certify that the stock owned required a larger extent of country, when more than one block could be held with a license for each. It was also decided that blocks should be, as near as possible, seven miles apart. The lessee was guaranteed possession for eight years, and allowed to purchase 320 acres at the upset price of £1 per acre. At the end of eight years he was promised that on the payment of another £10 he could obtain a renewal for another eight years, with the right to purchase another 320 acres. Thus the squatter acquired some settled interest in his holding, and was induced to make better improvements and buildings, which of course he was careful to erect on his preemptive section.

Fenced paddocks became general near the homestead, and almost every holding had its cultivation paddock. Timber being plentiful, the fences were generally substantially built of posts and three rails, not infrequently, portions are still standing at the present day. Much competition and rivalry was excited between the fencers of the time, and just as severe contests as we now see between the log-choppers of to-day.

About the middle of the year, Hamilton Hume, the explorer, revisited the district and was the guest of Mr. John Dight, at Bungowannah, for some little time. While there he pointed out a tree which he had marked to show the western limit of their travels when searching for a crossing in 1824. This tree (as was the one he marked at the point of first discovery) in later years, was undermined by a flood, and falling into a lagoon on the bank of which it stood, was eventually lost sight of among the debris of later years.



In this year we have the first record of a race meeting in the district of more than local importance. What may well be called the first "Albury Cup," was competed for by six horses, at least one of which was brought from Tasmania, and others from Sydney for the occasion. The cup, which is still in the possession of Mr. Frank Spalding (1919) of Albury, was won by a grey gelding named "Romeo," the property of Mr. Spalding, senr., who was spoken of early in this record as bringing stock to Thologolong in 1836. Thus the honour of local talent was well and worthily upheld. C. H. Ebdon, and James Wyse, are also known to have entered horses for this and other races at this meeting. The course was laid out on the flat now occupied by the Botanical Reserve, at Albury.

Whether this was the commencement of the annual meetings, held for so many years at Albury, is not known, but even at that early day, such a fixture was probably annual, for we find a reference to them in the Rev. Dr. Lang's "Phillipsland," published in Sydney in 1846. He had but recently travelled overland from Melbourne, and writes thus: "That while there was no place of worship nor police establishment, the Albury races had been established for some years." Further, he says: "Yearly at this fixture, great excesses occurred, the hotelkeeper (Brown) having, even on the Sabbath, to serve out rum in buckets to those assembled at the racecourse, close to his house."

May we charitably hope that the "bucket" was but a small one, and had not to be replenished often, for the credit of the pioneers, who did so much to make life possible in the face of almost incredible difficulties.

The names of a few residents of Albury have been preserved. They were Denny, the shoemaker, who in his old age tried to make himself proficient on the violin, and ultimately claimed the name of the "Albury Paganini" because he played on one string only, and even that he replaced with a thin wire. Bobby was a tailor, Moses a storekeeper, Grover a brickmaker, and Lundy the mailman. Mr. James MacLaurin is also said to have resided there temporarily at least.

The only run formed north of the river, this year, of which we have record, is Cookardinia, or Cookendina,

adjoining Round Hill by John Post and John Keane, from Kean's Flat, near Lake George. The name is said by some to be derived from the native word for "a gigantic kingfisher," but has also been attributed to Sir Thos. Mitchell, who is supposed to have christened it after two settlers named Cook and Dine.

South of the Murray, Barwidgee (variously translated as "going down," and "white drink"), was formed by James Tyson (in later years known as the millionaire sheepowner of New South Wales and Queensland), for the Buckland after whom the Buckland river was named. It is on the Myrtle creek, a branch of the Ovens. Lilliput run, between Springhurst and Rutherglen, was formed by James Gullifer, one of the first party to bring cattle to the Murray.



## CHAPTER XVIII.

With the year 1845, we complete the ten years during which the district was practically entirely settled. In 1835, it was an absolute wilderness, untrodden by white-men, except the first explorers on their brief journey; now, in 1845, a completely settled area, carrying much stock, with a rapidly increasing population, and the nuclei of some of the most prosperous townships of the present day.

From January 1st, postal facilities were increased by the overland mail being made a bi-weekly fixture.

Its position had made the district known to all travellers between the two capitals, and a large majority of the sheep and cattle, with which Victoria was stocked, had passed along its unmade but well marked roads. Its character for fertility was well established, and the standing of its residents was fully equal to those of any other part of the Colonies.

At the river crossings, considerable settlement was in evidence. At the Ovens, Clarke was doing a large and profitable business, and the Hope inn was the centre round which several residences had been erected. Competition was already somewhat acute between those living on the opposite banks of the river. At the Murray, the township of Albury was attaining respectable proportions. Two hotels (the Hume and Commercial); two stores, a tailor, a shoemaker were all doing good business. Three sales of building allotments had been held. J. C. Everitt was established as a blacksmith, and his brother, Luke, as the first builder and undertaker in this part. Richard Heaver was building the first steam flour mill in Hume Street, which proved a great relief to the settlers thoroughly tired of the old "bunging mills."

The permanent residents had increased from six in 1839, to over fifty, and there was always a considerable floating population about the crossings.

We can only attribute the formation of two runs to this year, south of the Murray. They are Porepunkah,

taken up by John Mitchell, on the Ovens, and Thirlingananga, south of Yackandandah, by George Kinchington, whose arrival in the district is noted in 1838, when he was on his way to Kergunnia with his family.

North of the river, Crichton and Hill are said to have formed Round Hill at this time, but there is little doubt but that they were in occupation at least a year earlier. C. and A. Huon are also credited with holding Walbundrie, but the records are too unreliable to fix the proper date for the formation, as is also the case with much of the large area they are believed to have held at various times.

In the Government "Gazette" for Port Phillip, of 1845, we have the earliest official list of runs in the various districts south of the Murray. A reference to this shows forty-nine in the area covered by the counties of Bogong and Benambra officially recognised and with the name of the then lessee given. It must be premised that in some cases the name given in the "Gazette" is not that of the occupier, but rather that of the mortgagee, who, for his better protection, had registered a lien over the holding.

A perusal of the list will show many changes had already taken place in the ownership of the runs. The following may be noted: Adjie had passed from J. J. Howell to Howell and Hassall; Baranduda from Charles Huon to Frederick Street; Barnawatha, first taken by Slack, had been reformed by G. H. Barbour; Bethanga, purchased from William Roberts by Messrs Johnston, Bungil, which John Waite formed in 1836, for John Here, now stands in the name of Heape and Grice, probably for financial reasons; Bungoona also is credited to the estate of Wm. Shelley, though still occupied by James Roberts; Burrowye had been sold by Donald McLeod to Messrs W. and H. Scott, nephews of the distinguished author, Sir Walter Scott.

Cowper's heifer run, or Beringama, had been taken over by Joseph Andrews; Pinsen had joined Roberts at Dederang; Hervey Bros had been succeeded by J. A. Broughton at Jingellie; the Mitta holding had been divided, and Samuel Bowler held one portion; Murra-murran-bong had been sold by Aimee Huon to Hector Nor-



man Simson; McKenzie had replaced Lockharte, at Talandoon; Tarrawingee had been acquired by Sir Francis Murphy, from the widow of Dr. William Bowman; Thologolong had passed from Spalding and party to Redhall Bros., and from them to Redfern, Alexander and Co.; Wabba, which early maps show as Smith's, was in the possession of Robert Young; Walwa, formed in 1839, by Guise Bros., had been acquired by Hervey Bros.; Werमतong, Guise Bros. had taken over from Rowland Shelley; at Yabba, Howe, of Glenleigh, had succeeded J. Redfern; and Lower Yackandandah had passed from Osborne to Mrs. Eliz. Mitchell, represented by her eldest son, Thomas.

There is no corresponding official list of the runs north of the Murray, but a careful comparison of records show not less than forty-five holdings, within the present bounds of the counties of Hume, Goulburn and Selwyn, in 1845, though the counties had not been defined at that date.

Again we find many changes of ownership: Bowna, which Matt. Smith had formed, had passed to Thomas Shelley; Brocklesby, Cropper and Thompson had sold to Chapman; Coppabella had been purchased by James Robinson; Coreen had been reformed by Wilson, after David Reid had abandoned it; Cumbaroona was just changing hands, from Jobbins to Chas. and Henry Fowler; at Dora Dora, Henry Jeffries had succeeded Redhall Bros.; Matt. Pearce had taken over Howlong from Weatherall and Hawdon; Khancoban was held by "Swampy Hay," who had followed Guise Bros.; Brodribb had sold Mannus to Stewart; Maracket, formed by Summers in 1840, was already in the possession of Robert Mason; Mungabareena, as mentioned above, had been purchased from Ebdon by Haon and given to Mrs. Mitchell; John Hay had succeeded Scott at Ournie, and Hyland, of Boro, had reformed Quat Quatta, after Reid had abandoned it; Tabletop had passed from Dutton to Hobbie Elliott, and then to Foote and Patterson; T. H. Bardwell had secured the S.E. portion of Purtell's Ten Mile creek run; James Garland had sold Tooma to Hay and Chalmers; Wagra had passed from Cobham and party to John Hore, and Welaregang from Rowland Shelley, the first owner, to Sir John Hay.

A full list of all the runs in the district, formed at that date, is appended, with the dates of formation where known with any certainty.

But little more of interest has to be noted from the the "Gazette" above quoted. It mentions Clarke's inn at the Ovens, the Black Dog inn at the creek of that name, and Middlemiss' inn on the Indigo creek, and also Clarke's appointment as poundkeeper at the Ovens.

The population of the Murray district, which extended from the Goulburn to the Murray, was: free males, 589; bonded, 50; females, all free, 178. The stock carried were; horses, 1397; cattle, 60,682; sheep, 166,978. They were 1290 acres under cultivation, practically all used to grow wheat for local consumption.

Brown in this year replaced the canoe at Albury by a punt, rendering the crossing of the river an easy matter at most times.

We have now reached a period when the first settlement of the district may be considered complete. Practically the whole area was under some form of occupation, and it only remained for the increase of population to lead to subdivision and the formation of holdings in parts hitherto not considered suitable. Within ten years, we find that the runs had increased fully 50 per cent., chiefly by sub-division, and the taking up of blocks of summer country. The influx of population resulting from the opening up of the goldfields led to many smaller areas being secured and farms established wherever the land was suitable.

At the present day many of the larger original runs have been quite selected, and there is a probability of even their names being forgotten, in the formation of new townships and the adoption of new industries.

In conclusion, the writer would point out that he is fully aware that this sketch probably contains many inaccuracies, owing to the scarcity of records and the shortcomings of the memories of even the oldest inhabitant, and that he will always welcome any correction or additions to what, at best, must be an imperfect chronicle.



**STATIONS AND OWNERS IN THE COUNTIES OF  
BOBONG AND BEMAMBERA, IN 1845.**

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Adgie or Colac Colac (1839), Howell and Hassall.  
Barambogie or Eldorado (1839), Wm. Fury Baker.  
Baranduda (1836), Frederic Street.  
Barnawatha (1837), Geo. Hume Barber or Barbour.  
Bethanga (1837), Messrs Johnston.  
Bigarea (1837), John Collins.  
Bonegilla (1835), C. H. Ebden.  
Bontherambo (1838), Rev. Joseph Docker.  
Boorahaman (1839), Joseph Boulds.  
Bremin (1839), Michael O'Dea or Benjamin Barber.  
Bungil (1836), Heape and Grice.  
Bungoona (1835), Estate of Wm Shelley.  
Burrowye (1838), W. and H. Scott.  
Carara-gar-mungie (1838), James and Agnes Reid.  
Corryong (1838 or 1839), Charles Cowper.  
Cowper's heifer run or Beringama (1838 or 1839), Joseph  
Andrews.  
Cudgewa (1837), Susannah M. Shelley.  
Dederang (1838), Finsen and Roberts.  
Gooramadda (1839), Clarke and Brown.  
Gravel's Plains (1838), George Shelley.  
Gundowring (1833), G. H. and Benjamin Barber or Bar  
bour.  
Happy Valley (1838 or 1839), Wm. Forlonge.  
Hinnomungie (1842), E. Crooke.  
Jingellie South (1839), J. A. Broughton.  
Jirramul (1839), Rowland Shelley.  
Kergunnia (1838), McKenzie and Wyde.  
Lilliput (1844), James Gullifer.  
Mitta Mitta (1840), William Wyse.  
Mitta Mitta (1843), Samuel Bowler.  
Mullindolingong (1842), James Black.  
Murra-murran-bong (1837), Hector Norman Simson.  
Nariel (1839), James Hassall.  
Noorengong (1837), Owen McDonald.  
Omeo A. (1836), James Pendergast.  
Omeo B. (1835), James MacFarlane.

Talgarno (1836), John Jobbins.  
 Tallandoon (1839), McKenzie and Clarke.  
 Tallangatta (1838), James Wilson.  
 Tangambalanga (1838), Wm. Walker and Co.  
 Tarrawingee (1837), Francis Murphy.  
 Thologolong (1836), Redfern and Alexander.  
 Tintaldra (1837), William Shelley.  
 Thirlingananga (1845), Geo Kinchington.  
 Towong (1838), Guise Bros.  
 Ulina (1839), Jason Withers.  
 Wabba (1839), Robert Young.  
 Wahgunyah (1839), Crisp and Foord.  
 Walwa (1839), Hervey Bros.  
 Wermatong (1837), Guise Bros.  
 Wodonga (1836), Paul Huon.  
 Wooragee (1840), Wm. Bowman.  
 Yabba (1840), Howe, of Glenleigh.  
 Yackandandah Upper (1837), James Osborne.  
 Yackandandah Lower (1837), Eliz. Mitchell.

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# **STATIONS AND OWNERS IN COUNTIES OF HUME, GOULBURN AND SELWYN, 1845.**

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Billabong (1836), Rev. R. J. J. Therry.  
 Bowna (1837), Thomas Shelley.  
 Bringembrong (1839), William Guise.  
 Brocklesby (1839), Thos. Chapman.  
 Burra (1840) Campbell, of Duntroon.  
 Bungowannah (1837), John Dight.  
 Burrumbuttock (1843), C. and A. Huon.  
 Carabobala (1839), Elliott Heriot.  
 Collendina (1842), Robert Brown.  
 Cookardinia (184 ), John Post.  
 Corean (1841), Wilson  
 Cumeroona (1836), Chas. and Hy. Fowler.  
 Dora Dora (1837), Jeffries Bros.  
 Gerogery (1839), C. and A. Huon.  
 Glenroy (1837), William Guise.



Howlong (1837), Matt. Pearce.  
Indi (1839), W. and M. Hervey.  
Jingellie (1839), Joseph Hawdon or Reid.  
Khancoban (1838), John Hay.  
Mahonga (18 ) C. and A. Huon.  
Mannus (1838), Hay and Chalmers.  
Maracket (1840), Robt. Mason.  
Meragle (1839), Dr. Bell.  
Morebringer (1840), William Lester.  
Mountain Creek (1837), John Purtell.  
Mundaroo (1839), Wm. Love.  
Mullengandra (1839), Morrice and Osborne.  
Mungabareena (1835) Mrs. Eliz. Mitchell.  
Ournie (1839), John Hay.  
Opossum Point (1840), Thomas Richards.  
Quat Quatta (1840), Thos Hyland.  
Tabletop (1836), Thomas Vicars Foote.  
Talmalmo (1838), Abraham Miller.  
Ten Mile Creek (1837), John Purtell.  
Ten Mile Creek (1837), T. H. Bardwell.  
Tooma (1839), Hay and Chalmers.  
Tumberumba (1840), Campbell, of Duntroon.  
Wagra (1836), John Hore.  
Walla Walla (1840), C. and A. Huon.  
Welaregang (1838), Sir John Hay.  
Walbundrie (1840), C. and A. Huon.  
Woomargama (1838), McKenzie and Wylde.  
Yarra Yarra (1836), Rev. R. J. J. Therry.  
Yellowin (1845), Thomas Wilkinson.

## SYNOPSIS OF UPPER MURRAY RUNS AND OWNERS FROM 1835 to 1879.

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The following notes are chiefly taken from Government "Gazettes," and other printed records, but are supplemented by statements of old residents. In each case the date of formation of the holding is given, where known, and as far as possible of the various transfers. Some inaccuracies must almost necessarily be found in the latter, as often, though a property changed owners, the transfer was not gazetted for two, three or even more years.

Another source of error as regards the actual ownership of holdings is that when it was found necessary to mortgage the property, the instrument was often registered, and for some years the mortgagee's name appeared as lessee.

An endeavour has been made to cover the period during which a gradual transition took place, from unoccupied and unexplored territory, through depasturing license days to leasehold, and somewhat wholesale conversion into freehold.

This latter process has led to the complete disappearance of many large original holdings, now happily replaced by an endless succession of comfortable farms.

At first held on a mere license, with payment of a stock tax, in the early fifties, the rent was fixed by the estimated carrying capacity rather than by the actual number of stock grazed on the area. The rents have been reassessed at various times as the leaseholds became reduced in area, by selection or purchase.

It has not been attempted to note the many changes since 1879, because the rapid and continuous increase of small holdings would render it uninteresting and impossible with any accuracy. A reference to the note on the Mitta Mitta block will give a good example of the subdivision which has taken place in most cases.

For convenience, the list of runs has been arranged alphabetically and separate lists made of those north and south of the Murray respectively.

A map compiled from official sources is appended, showing as nearly as possible the actual boundaries of all the runs noted.



## STATIONS IN THE COUNTIES OF BOGONG AND BENAMBRA, SOUTH OF THE MURRAY.

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**ADGIE** (Co. Benambra), from "Adjin"—water. Now known as **Colac Colac**, from "klaek klaek"—a locust. Situate on the Courang creek, north of the present township of Corryong.

Formed in or before 1839, by J. J. Howell and Hassall Bros., from Burrowa, it is shown in Wyld's map issued in 1840, as Howell's station. The "Gazette" of 1845, gives J. J. Howell as lessee. Howell died in 1847, and was represented in 1848, by his widow, Lucy Howell. The area was then 12,800 acres, with an estimated carrying capacity of 800 cattle.

In 1852, Lucy Howell transferred to Matthew Hervey, and in the following year the "Gazette" shows an increase in area to 16,000 acres, fit to carry 3453 sheep. In 1854, W. and M. Hervey were given as lessees in conjunction with Bigarea and Corryong. By 1857, Hervey Bros. had sold to Joseph Hanson and James Wheeler, whose rent was assessed at £12/10/- per annum.

When in 1862, the lands of the Colony were classified, the area is again given as 12,800 acres, of which 6,400 were placed in the 3rd, and 6,400 in the 4th class. The rent was raised, and in 1868, Hanson and Wheeler held it at £58/12/-. Later the run was re-appraised for in 1879 Hanson and Wheeler paid a rent of £78/15/-. Portions of the run still remain in the hands of their descendants.

### **ANNANDALE** (Co. Benambra).

North of the road from Tallangatta to Corryong, about 12 miles from the former.

Originally part of Tallangatta run when formed by David Wilson, in 1838, it remained attached to that property till after 1865, when Menzies and Nicoll, the owners of Tallangatta, were assessed a rent of £26 for it.

By 1871, it had passed to Singleton Bros., who held it as an outstation of Thologolong, and in 1879, W. J., C. S., and G. E. Singleton were gazetted as holders, at a rent of £97/10/-.

**BARAMBOGIE** (Co. Bogong).—“A big bathing hole.” Situate between Chiltern and Wooragee. See **El-dorado**.

**BARANDUDA** or **BURRUNDUDA** (Co. Bogong).—“A water rat.” West of the Little river, south of Wodonga.

Originally included in the Wodonga run, when taken up in 1836; an outstation was formed here by Charles Huon in that year or early in 1837. He built a homestead and resided there for some years. Frederic Street, whose eldest son, George, was born at Kergunnia as early as September, 1839, is said to have obtained possession in 1844 and the “Gazette” of 1845 gives him as lessee. However, in 1848, we find the lease in the name of John C. Thomson, and in 1850, he transfers to Thomson and Aitken. In 1853, again Frederic Street is assessed as owner, for 5160 sheep. In 1857, George Street, who had been at Kergunnia as early as 1839, was associated with Frederic Street in the “Gazette.” In 1862, the lease was again in the name of Frederick Street, and the area is given as 10,000 acres of 3rd, and 10,000 acres of 4th class land, with a rent of £180. On appeal in 1863, the estimated carrying capacity was reduced from 1800 to 450 cattle, and the rent to £45, and in 1865, to £25/10/-. By 1868, the leasehold had been considerably reduced by selection, etc. and the rent had fallen to £23/10/-. In 1877, the “Gazette” gives George Street, junr., as in possession, though the lease still remained in Frederic Street’s name, as indeed it did in 1879, when the rent was increased to £31/5/-.

**BARNAWATHA** or **BARNAWOODTHA** (Co. Bogong).

West of Wodonga. The name is said to be derived from the aboriginal for a deaf and dumb person, also from “Barne-waitha”—tall rushes. It is situate on the Indigo creek, apparently known to the natives as the “Koendidah.” First formed by Joseph Slack, in 1837, he held it



but a short time, when he removed his stock across the Goulburn, to a station he had formed there. It remained unoccupied till 1839, when George Hume Barber or Barbour, a nephew of Hamilton Hume, the explorer, and a landholder in King's County, took possession. The "Gazette" of 1849, gives him as the holder of a lease here of 38,400 acres, with a carrying capacity of 8,000 sheep.

In 1852, David Reid purchased it and built the stone house now known as "The Hermitage," though the "Gazette" shows that the lease remained in Barber's name. In 1853, the assessment was on 6,900 sheep, and the following year the rent was fixed at £76/5/-. By 1857 the area had been considerably curtailed, and the rent reduced to £20. Reappraisement in 1862, showed 5500 acres of 3rd, and 5500 acres of 4th class land, estimated to carry 990 cattle, at a rent of £99. This was reduced on appeal in 1863 to 100 head of cattle and £10 rent.

In 1865, David Reid disposed of the property, when "The Hermitage" and much of the freehold was taken by Mr. John Whitehead, while the original homestead, with the much-curtailed leasehold portion, passed to George Henderson, at a rent of £7. By 1871, it had passed to Henry Richardson, who, in 1879, paid a rent of £7/10/-.

BARWIDGEE (Co. Bogong). Said to mean "white drink"; J. J. Bayliss says, "going down." On the Myrtle creek—a tributary of the Ovens river.

Formed by James Tyson, in 1844, for the Buckland after whom the Buckland river was named. In later years, Tyson was the millionaire sheepowner of New South Wales and Queensland.

By 1848, it had passed to William Forlonge, who was gazetted as the holder of 28,000 acres, estimated to carry 1200 cattle. He transferred to Richard Box, who in 1853, was assessed on 4984 sheep. In 1862, it was classified as 14,000 acres of 3rd and 14,000 acres of 4th class land, and the rent fixed at £252. Appeal reduced this to £56, and it remained at that figure till after he sold to John Huie Ziglar and William MacVean, in 1875. In 1879, they paid a rent of £37/10/-, and in the following year sold to William West.

**BENAMBRA** (Co. Benambra). On the creek of that name N.E. of Omeo.

This is an area of hill country taken up by Edward Crooke before 1850. In 1853, he was assessed on 12,800 acres, estimated to carry 2914 sheep. Soon after that he sold to Sheehan and Pendergast, who in turn transferred to MacDougal. In 1862, Patrick Coady Buckley is gazetted as lessee, and the run is described as "unsurveyed," but estimated to carry 206 cattle. The rent was fixed at £20/16/-. but this was, by 1865, reduced to £11/6/-. Buckley held it till 1879, when he transferred it to Charles Macpherson Fraser. Now in 1919, it is held by Pendergast Bros.

**BERINGAMA** (Co. Benambra) (An anthill; also said to mean a lightwood tree).

Originally part of **Cowper's Heifer run**, taken up by Charles Cowper in 1838, or 1839, it lies east of Annandale, on the Tallangatta-Corryong road. It does not appear as a separate holding till 1871, when it was held by John and William Whitehead. They occupied it till 1879, when they transferred it to D. E. and W. F. Williams, Evan R. Evans and John Lindsay.

**BETHANGA** (Co. Benambra).

Lying east of the Mitta Mitta, opposite Bonegilla, and south of Talgarno, it was first formed by William Roberts, from the Shoalhaven river, in 1837. In 1838, he sold to Col. David Johnston, a runholder on the Murrumbidgee. In 1845, it stood in the names of Messrs Johnston, and the cattle brand "EJ" had become well-known. In 1848, the "Gazette" gives Messrs R. and W. Johnston as lessees, and they sold to John Hore, in 1849. In 1858, Hore sold it with his **Wagra run**, north of the Murray for £25,000, but paid £1000 to annul the sale. In 1862, the area is given as 23,000 acres, and the rent fixed at £207. On appeal this was reduced to £104/10/-. and it remained at that figure till after 1868.

In 1869, Thomas Mitchell, of **Tangambalanga** purchased the run, and after selling off most of the splendid herd of cattle, transferred in 1870 to Alexander Kirkman and Collin Campbell Findlay. The freehold then amounted to 1150 acres, and was valued at £3 per acre. Shortly after further alienation took place and the rent



was reduced to £80. The value of the area caused some stir of public feeling, and meetings were held to protest against such valuable property being held in the hands of but two owners, when it was capable of supporting a considerable number of farmers. As a result, the Findlays, in 1875, cut up the estate and sold it in small blocks, which found ready purchasers at high prices. The leasehold portion passed to David Mitchell, who still held it in 1882.

**BIGAREA or BEGGARY** (Co. Benambra). From Be-ag-a-ree—the red earth used by the natives to ornament their bodies.

It is situated on the left bank of the Indi river, south of **Towong**. Robert Mason was the first to settle on this isolated spot, in 1837. In 1838, he took his bride there. Their first child was born in 1839, was christened Robert John, and was the first white child born on the Upper Murray. Unfortunately he only survived two years. His grave is still marked by a willow tree near the homestead. In 1845, Mason transferred to John Collins, and in 1850, it passed to John and William Collins. Later in the same year, they sold to James Ford. In 1853, T. H. Bardwell, of **Oberne**, is gazetted as the holder of 16,000 acres, equal to carrying 2912 sheep. In 1854, again Messrs W. and M. Hervey held it in conjunction with **Adgie** and **Corryong**. McCormack and Sons were in possession in 1861, at a rent of £10. In 1862, W. O'Neil is given as the holder of 15,360 acres of 4th class land. In 1863, Henry McIlree occupied it, though the lease still stood in the name of O'Neil, even as late as 1871, when the rent was £47/10/-. By 1878, P. and J. McCormack were associated with W. O'Neil in the holding, but by 1879 the lease had been transferred to the Manager of the Bank of Australasia.

**BOGONG HIGH PLAINS** (Co. Bogong).

A tract of rough country lying between **Mullindolingong** on the north, and **Bundaramungie**, on the south traversed by the Big river and other creeks. It is little used except in times of drought further west, when it is availed of as relief country. In summer 1918-19, Messrs McDonald, Clark, Buchanan and Howman Bros. occupied it.

**BONEGILLA** (Co. Bogong). A big water hole, or cattle camp or deep water.

Bounded on the east by the Mitta Mitta, on the west by the little river, and on the north by the Murray. This was probably the first run formed in what is now Victoria and covered the magnificent flats about the junction of the rivers. It was discovered and taken up by William Wyse for C. H. Ebdon, late in 1835, or early in 1836. Wyse remained in charge for two years and was succeeded by James Findlay, who, in later years, owned **Towong**. Ebdon in 1848, was credited with holding an area here of 25,000 acres, estimated to carry 1600 cattle or 10,000 sheep. In 1851, the run was purchased by Dr. Farmer, and in 1853 he was assessed on 12,407 sheep, a number again raised in 1854 to 18,000. The property then passed to David Bowen Jones; he died in 1859, while holding the office of First President of the Albury Agricultural Society. At the re-appraisement in 1862, the lease still remained in his name, the area was given as 23,000 acres: half being 3rd, and half 4th class. The rent was raised from £66 to £207, and the carrying capacity to 2070 cattle. However, appeal resulted in the reduction of the rent to £86. By 1871, when John Conisbee purchased, the area had been curtailed and the rent reduced to £61. Further alienation took place, and the lease, in 1879, only carried a rent of £29. In 1887, Conisbee sold to a syndicate consisting of Pearson, Hoddinott and MacAllister.

**BONTHERAMBO PLAINS** (Co. Bogong).

This run originally covered all the country between Chiltern and the Ovens river, bounded on the north by the Murray. It was taken up by Mr. George Faithfull in April 1835, for his sheep, when he placed his cattle on Oxley Plains. He was compelled to abandon it owing to troubles with the aborigines. Previously, it had been made use of as a halting place by W. T. Mollison, in the winter of 1837. He remained here some months before passing to his run on the Coliban river. His example was followed by Hector Norman Simson, Mackinnon, Darlot, Dutton and others. In August, 1838, the Rev. Joseph Docker, of Windsor, near Sydney, undismayed by fear of the blacks, reformed it, and laid claim to the whole country as far as the Murray.



In 1839, the area was curtailed by the formation of the **Bremin**, **Boorahaman** and **Ulina** runs, but still 100,000 acres were left. This was estimated to carry 1500 cattle or 20,000 sheep. In 1848, the area remained the same. In 1853, the assessment was increased to 32,592 sheep, and the rent fixed at £145. In 1862, the run was divided into 75,000 acres of 3rd and 25,000 acres of 4th class land, estimated to carry 43,750 sheep. Mr. Docker held the run at a rent of £106/13/4 till his death in 1865, when it passed to his son-in-law, Charles J. Read, at the increased rent of £167. Much alienation followed and only a portion remained in the Docker family. The "Gazette," of 1879, gives Samuel Brentnall as lessee, but in the following year it was gazetted as liable to forfeiture.

#### BOORAHAMAN (Co. Bogong).

On the right bank of the Ovens, 12 miles north of Wangaratta. Originally included in **Bontherambo**, it became a separate run in 1839, Joseph Boulds being responsible. In 1848, the area is given as 22,400 acres, estimated to carry 800 cattle. By 1853, it was reduced to 20,520 acres with a carrying capacity of 6,000 sheep. The 1862, appraisement again showed 16,800 acres of 3rd, and 5600 acres of 4th class land, and the rent was raised to £235. On appeal this was reduced to £37/10/-. In 1871, the lease stood in the name of F. G. Docker, and again the rent was raised to £235. By 1875, Mr. Henry Bayliss had married the widow of Joseph Boulds and become the owner at the old rent of £37/10/-.

#### BOWMAN'S HEIFER RUN (Co. Bogong). See Wooragee.

#### BREMIN, BRIMIN or BREMEN (Co. Bogong).

On the right bank of the Ovens, at its junction with the Murray. It was often, in early days, spoken of as "The Junction." First occupied as part of **Bontherambo**, by Docker, it became a separate holding in the following year, but the holder is doubtful. It is said that it was Michael O'Dea—probably the well-known O'Dea of Kilmore, who is gazetted as lessee in 1844, and is believed to have been there much earlier. By 1847, Benjamin Barber had acquired it, and in 1848 is gazetted as the holder

of 32,000 acres, estimated to carry 7000 sheep. In 1849, Thomas Mitchell held it for his mother, Elizabeth Mitchell, probably after Barber had been drowned in the Broken river. Messrs Brookes and Paul Dutton succeeded before 1851, and in 1853, transferred to Thomas Clarke, of **Gooramadda**. His area is given as 28,489 acres, carrying 4699 sheep. In 1857, it is returned as carrying 543 cattle and 27 horses. In 1862, the area is given as 17,250 acres of 3rd, and 5,750 acres of 4th class land, and the rent fixed at £241. Mr. Henry Bayliss was then managing for the Executors of Thomas Clarke; but in 1865, he is gazetted as owner, at a reduced rent of £31. Again in 1871, we find the rent increased to £276, and F. G. Docker given as lessee; while in 1875, Bayliss was again in possession at a rent of £37/10/-, at which he continued to hold it in 1879.

**BUEMBA** (Co. Benambra).

A rough tract of country on the upper part of the Gibbo creek, only occupied in bad seasons. Unoccupied in 1919.

**BUNDARAMUNGIE** or **BUNDARMUNGIE** (Co. Bongong).

On the Cobungra creek—a tributary of the Mitta Mitta—near Mount Battery.

Originally part of the **Cobungra** run; the date of formation is doubtful, as also is that of its becoming a separate holding. The first appearance of it in the "Gazette" list is in 1859, when E. Grey is given as the holder of 18,000 acres at a rent of £10. In 1862, it was all placed in the 4th class, and J. H. Clough and Co., were the owners. They held it till about 1871, when they transferred to John Higgins, the rent then being £12/7/4. In 1879, one authority gives Osborne Young and Eugene Higgins as owners, while another states Arthur Pyle was associated with Osborne Young in the property. In 1919, Thomas McNamara held it.

**BUNGIL** (Co. Benambra). (A grassy creek).

On the left bank of the Murray east of **Talgarno**. Early in 1836, John Spalding and party are believed to have attempted to stock this run, but owing to trouble



with the natives, had to retire across the river. Later in the year, John Waite, from Bong Bong, took possession on behalf of his son-in-law, John Hore. Within a year Hore exchanged it with Cobham party for **Wagra**, on the opposite side of the Murray. There is no record of the then owners, but Spalding is known to have been living there in 1844. In 1845, Heape and Grice were gazetted as lessees, and in 1848, they are given as occupying it with **Koetong**, as an out station, an area of 74,000 acres, estimated to carry 8000 sheep. The "Gazette" also gives Mr. J. Miller as holding a lease there, but does not give the area. In 1852, **Bungil** was transferred to F. J. Payne, and in 1854, while the area remained the same, the carrying capacity was reduced to 6000 sheep. In 1857, it stood in the name of Charles Payne, and the rent, with **Koetong**, was but £15. By 1861, it had passed to R. G. C. Duff, then holding **Thologolong**, while in 1862, Rowe, Kirk and Goldsborough are given as the holders. This probably meant that the real owner required financial assistance. The area is then stated to be 16,000 acres of 3rd class, and 16,000 acres of 4th class land, and though the area of **Koetong** is not given, the combined rent was fixed at £288, reduced on appeal to £144. In the early part of 1865, the rent being £135, these two holdings passed through the hands of Bear and McMahon, while later in the year, Monckton and Darlot were concerned, but after only a short time they passed to Goldsborough and Co. Mr. Maiden was then appointed manager, and remained in charge till his death in 1874. Mr. Pocklington then obtained an interest in conjunction with Goldsborough and Co, and Mr. Blair was appointed manager. In 1879, the lease still stood in Goldsborough's name and the rent, with **Koetong**, was £333/13/-.

**BUNGOONA** or **BUNGONIA** (Co. Bogong). (A sandy creek.)

On the left bank of the Mitta Mitta, near the present Huen Lane railway station. It originally included what was later known as **Tatonga**.

First formed by James Roberts, in 1838, he held it till 1848, when he was assessed on 36,000 acres, estimated to carry 1600 cattle. Roberts at the same time held **Tawanga**. In 1853, the assessment was altered to 12,300 sheep, and in 1855, he transferred to John Waite, who

paid a rent of £55 per annum. Waite sold to W. J. M. Stuckey, who held it till 1862, when the lease stood in the name of Barber, Mitchell and Co., the area then was 7650 acres of 3rd, and 7650 acres of 4th class land, with a rent of £137/10/-. When this was reduced by appeal to £68, it passed to Abraham Strettle. In 1865, William Telford is gazetted as lessee, at £35 per annum, but by 1868, it had passed to Thomas Mitchell, at a reduced rent of £28. Considerable alienation took place, and the leasehold passed through the hands of Wm. Sloane and Co., who, in 1871, sold to Hamlet Fletcher. He in turn sold, in 1876, with **Tatonga** and **Limestone Creek**, to George Temple, in whose hands it remained in 1879, at a rent of £36/5/-.

**BURROWYE** (Co. Benambra). (Meaning "toward the east.")

On the left bank of the Murray, east of **Thologolong**. First formed by Donald McLeod, in 1838, or early in 1839, the length of his tenure is doubtful, but before 1845, it had passed to William and Hugh Scott, nephews of Sir Walter Scott, the well-known author. They are credited with holding 14,000 acres, estimated to carry 1000 cattle, and which would lead one to suppose they only held the northern portion of the property, the southern portion being then known as Guy's Forest, and its occupant doubtful. In 1853, Sydney G. Watson held it with an assessment of 5500 sheep, increased in 1854 to 10,000. In 1861, William Sloane and Co. held it, and on re-appraisal in 1862, 10,000 acres were placed in the 3rd class, and 30,000 in the 4th, implying that at that time both portions were one holding. The rent was fixed at £360, reduced on appeal to £150, and two years later to £76. McCulloch and Sellar were in possession in 1868, and Brett and Ross in 1871.

In 1873, the run had again been divided, for the "Gazette" mentions both holdings, but does not name the lessees. Evan R. Evans is credited with the occupation of the southern portion in conjunction with Beringama. In 1874, **Burrowye South** was forfeited for non-payment of rent, but evidently was re-taken by Brett and Ross, as they were gazetted the holders in 1875. They then sold to A. A. Anderson and Co., who passed it to John Kelly in 1876, and in 1879 he held the whole area at a rent of £158.



BURROWYE SOUTH. See Burrowye.

BYNNOMUNGIE or BINGOMUNGIE (Co. Bogong).

Part of the original Cobungra run, west of **Hinnomungie** and south of **Mount Wills**.

Formed as an out station of **Cobungra**, very early, by Parslow, no owner of it as a separate holding has been traced till 1861, when George Grey is gazetted lessee, at a rent of £10. In 1862, W. G. Walker is credited with holding 16,000 acres of 4th class land here, and a year later passed it to Mary, George and Thomas Worcester, when the rent was £23/5/-. In 1865, the "Gazette" estimated the capacity as 960 cattle. The run remained with the Worcesters in 1879. By 1919 the run had passed to Thomas Rawson.

CARARA-GAR-MUNGEE, CARRAJARMONGIE, CURRAGARMUNGY of CURRAGARNING (Co. Bogong).

("Munjee, munjie"—a fight).

Situated on Reid's creek—a branch of the Ovens river; it is also known as **Reid's Creek** from the name of the first owner. Formed by David Reid, (a son of Dr. Reid, of Invermay, near Bungonia), in September, 1838, it included the country known as Spring Creek, and extended almost to the present town of Wangaratta. The pre-emptive purchase is on the right bank of the Ovens, just S.E. of the present town.

In 1845, the lease stood in the names of James and Agnes Reid, while in 1848, Agnes Reid is gazetted as owner of 60,000 acres, estimated to carry 1500 cattle and 6,000 sheep. In 1850, Agnes Reid transferred to J. R. D., and C. A. Reid. In 1852, gold was discovered by one of the shepherds, leading to a great rush. In 1853, it was assessed at 11,700 sheep, and a rent of £45/10/-. In 1862, at re-appraisement, Reid Bros. held 12,500 acres of 3rd and 12,500 acres of 4th class land, and the rent was fixed at £312, which, however, was reduced on appeal to £67. In 1871, again the rent was raised to £400, only to be again reduced on appeal to £76. At this rent T. C. Hutten purchased in 1875, and held it in 1879.

## CAMBOIN (Co. Benambra).

A small holding on one of the branches of the Tallangatta creek, and formerly part of **Tallangatta** run.

It does not appear as a separate holding till 1875, when John Mildren and William Carkeek held the lease. In the latter half of that year, J. G. Dougharty is given as lessee, and it does not again appear in the records.

## CHILLINGTON (Co. Bogong).

An area of rough country at the head of the Little river, which was leased by Mason in the "eighties."

## COBUNGRA or COWBANGRA (Co. Bogong).

On the creek of that name—one of the higher tributaries of the Mitta Mitta.

Originally a large run which included the holdings known as **Binnomungie**, **Bundaramungie**, and **Darbalang**, it is believed to have been formed by Wells Bros., before 1842. The ownership is doubtful till 1852, when George Grey is gazetted as holding 32,000 acres, estimated to carry 640 cattle. In 1854, Grey still held it and the assessment was raised to 10,000 sheep. In 1861, James Parslow's name is first officially connected with it, though he is said to have taken part in its first formation, and to have lived there many years. He had his head station on the western portion of the run, near the Victoria river, and had a partner named Meighan. In 1862, the area is given as 16,000 acres of 4th class land, and the rent was £10. In 1868, James Parslow and John Richard Rawson are given as the lessees. In 1871, we find the run divided, and the eastern portion held by Frederic William Drevermann, at a rent of £16, and the western by James Parslow at the same rent. In 1879, Parslow still held the west block, while the east had passed to Hans Maass and Richard Barling. In 1919, the leases stand in the name of Richard Riggall.

COBUNGRA EAST. See above.

COBUNGRA WEST. See above.

COLAC COLAC. See **Adgie**. ("Colac"—snow.)



CORRYONG (Co. Benambra). (From "Cooyong," a bandicoot.)

The name is met with variously spelt as "**Curriiong**," "**Curryong**," "**Cuniong**," "**Cunyong**," "**Kangyong**," "**Kungyong**" (first "G" soft), and "**Kurrigong**." Situate on the Courang creek, between **Thougla** and **Adgie**.

First taken up by Charles Cowper in 1838, or 1839, he held it in 1848, when the area is given as 12,000 acres, estimated to carry 640 cattle. Cowper was noted for his fine herd of Shorthorns. The station brand, "CC," always attracted attention among dealers. In July, 1850, Cowper transferred to W. and M. Hervey, while the October "**Gazette**" shows J. Baker, late Cowper, but Baker's name does not appear again in connection with it. In 1851, M. Hervey paid a rent of £12/10/-. He held it at the same rent till 1857, when Sydney G. Watson secured it. In 1863, the rent was raised to £113, but appeal led to considerable reduction. In 1871, Watson paid but £27, and still held it in 1885, when the area had been reduced to 8,500 acres.

COWPER'S HEIFER RUN (Co. Benambra).

Near the head of the Cudgewong creek, west of **Wabba**, and north of **Beringama**, as at present known, though originally part of the same holding.

This run was taken up by Charles Cowper, in connection with his **Corryong** station, for his young stock, in 1840. In the "**Gazette**," of 1845, Joseph Andrews is given as lessee, and again in 1848, though in this latter year, Cowper is also credited with a lease of 12,000 acres here. It is probable that this latter referred to that portion now included in **Beringama**. In 1850, Joseph Andrews sold out to Archibald Thoms, but resided on the Upper Murray may years in very poor circumstances.

The run does not appear in the "**Gazette**" lists again till 1853, when Joseph Evans is given as the holder of 32,000 acres here. In 1854, he is assessed at 10,000 sheep. He then sold to Matt. Hervey, who in 1857, paid a rent of £25. In 1859, the lease was in the names of Davidson and Whitehead, at the same rent. In 1862, D. and F. Whitehead were the holders of 6,000 acres of 3rd, and 6,000 acres of 4th class land. In 1865, the firm was Nugent and Whitehead, and the rent £20/10/-. In 1871,

the rent was raised to £160, and the run transferred to H. Waller, but soon after Thomas Nugent acquired it and still held it in 1879.

#### CUDGEWA (Co. Benambra).

On the Cudgewa or Cudgewong creek, S.E. of **Tintaldra**. This is a large run, the boundaries of which have varied under different holders. In late years it was divided into east and west blocks, sometimes in different hands, at others in one holding. Taken up in 1837 by Rowland Shelley, from Tumut Plains, for his mother, Mrs. Susannah Shelley. In 1848, the area is given as 35,000 acres, estimated to carry 1500 cattle or 8,000 sheep. The "Gazette" of this year also credits one Tooth with a lease here, but does not give the area. There is much uncertainty about the holders for some years. In 1851, the official map gives J. Alston, J. Evans, and Wm. Shelley all as holding leases here. In 1853, William Shelley had 16,000 acres, while in 1854, Matt. Hervey held sufficient country to carry 10,000 sheep. In 1857, when Angus Campbell was made a J.P., he gave his address as **Cudgewa**, and in 1859, he was charged a rent of £25. When re-appraised in 1862, the leases stood in the name of Powers, Rutherford and Co. There were then 8750 acres of 3rd, and 26,250 acres of 4th class land, at a rent of £262, shortly after reduced to £62/10/-. In 1865, Mr. Norrie first appears as owner, at a rent of £53/14/-, and shortly after, his sister, Mrs. Urquhart, was associated with him. In the same year, J. T. Riley held a lease of 33,900 acres under the name of **Cudgewa West**. In 1876, S. G. Watson and Thos. Laing, are gazetted as holders. In 1879, however, the run was in the hands of Norrie and Urquhart, at a rent of £200.

CUDGEWA EAST. See above.

CUDGEWA West. See above.

#### DARBALARY or DARBALANG (Co. Bogong).

On the Innomungie creek, about 10 miles west of **Omeo**. This run does not appear in the "Gazette" lists till 1862, when J. H. Clough and Co. held an area of 16,000 acres, estimated to carry 1440 cattle, at a rent



of £144. There is little doubt that this country was occupied earlier, but without official title or cognizance, and it is probable that Clough and Co., took it over from someone financially weak in a bad season. In 1863, the rent was reduced to £72. There is no note of its occupation again till 1879, when it was in the hands of James Petersen and Frederic Box, at a rent of £15. Box then lived at the foot of Mount Parslow.

#### DEDERANG (Co. Bogong).

On the left bank of the Kiewa or Little river, south of Kergunnia. James Roberts was the first to occupy this run, in 1838 or 1839, unless Pinson, who was in partnership with him in 1840, and who is said to have named the run, preceded him. In 1848, they held there 17,500 acres, supposed to carry 1200 cattle. In 1850, they sold to Charles Payne, who transferred to Bear and Dunsford before 1853, when the assessment was on 10,800 sheep, reduced in the following year to 5,000. In 1857, the lease was in the name of A. S. Palmer, a Tasmanian, who is said to have been employed for some years on the run in the interest of the mortgagee, Mr. Sanger. The rent then was only £12/10/-. In 1862, Palmer held 15,300 acres of 3rd and 4th class land, and the rent was fixed at £147/10/-, but reduced on appeal to £67/10/-.

The next holders were Cunningham and McCredie, who purchased in 1865, paying a rent of £69/17/-. By 1871, we find the run divided into three, viz., North, South and East. The latter was held by M. O'Donnell, and the two former by Thomas Robertson. The eastern block changed hands again in 1873, when Alfred Samuel Hobbs took possession for a few years before selling to John Woodside. In 1879, Woodside still held the eastern block, while Robertson continued the owner of the north and south portions.

#### DEGAMERO (Co. Bogong).

First noted in the "Gazette" lists of 1848, when Thomas Bond was the holder of 38,000 acres, estimated to carry 1000 cattle. In 1855, his rent was fixed at £34/10/-. Before 1862, it had passed to his son Matthew. The area was then divided into 19,000 acres of 3rd, and 19,000 acres of 4th class. Bond appealed against a rent of £342, and secured a reduction to £75, and two years later to

£38/10/-. In 1868, John Badcock purchased, and held it till 1873, when it passed to F. G. Docker. In 1879, Henry Conolly took possession and the rent was fixed at £117/10/-, with the result that it was forfeited for non-payment in 1880.

**ELDORADO (Co. Bogong).** Formerly known as **Barambogie** (Big bathing hole.)

On the Doma Mungie or Black Dog creek, between Chiltern and Wooragee.

First formed as the **Barambogie** run by Capt Wm. Fury Baker, in 1839. He came from Jerriekona, County Argyle, and also held land at Bungonia, near Goulburn. Baker held it in 1848, with an area of 31,000 acres, assessed to hold 1,000 cattle, or 7,000 sheep. In 1849, Agnes Reid unsuccessfully objected to a renewal of the lease to Baker, who soon after sold it, and we find it then divided into east and west blocks.

#### ELDORADO EAST.

The portion of **Eldorado** run which covered the site of the town of Chiltern, and lying east of the Black Dog Creek. The area was 20,000 acres, and it appears to have been purchased from W. F. Baker by Dr. Gemmell, of Wangaratta, from whom it passed to Dalgety and Co., who placed Thomas Noyes in charge. In 1861, they paid a rent of £12. Re-appraisement in 1862, placed 10,000 acres in the 3rd, and 10,000 acres in the 4th class, with a considerable increase of rent. It was estimated to carry 1800 cattle. Appeal secured a reduction again to £16. The run was sold in 1868 to Dr. Grainger Muir Brough, but by 1871 had been transferred to Wm. Sloane and Co., who in 1875 again transferred to Chas. Hutton. He was succeeded before 1879 by Thomas and Charles Hutton.

#### ELDORADO WEST.

The western portion of the old **Eldorado** run with an area also of 20,000 acres. This was bought by Jason Withers, of Ulina, before 1854, when he was assessed at 9,000 sheep. In 1857, J. F. Garlick paid a rent of £22/10/-, and the lease remained in his name till 1861, when it reverted to Jason Withers. The 1862 valuation placed 10,000 acres in the 3rd, and 10,000 acres in the 4th class, with a rent of £180. Appeal in the following year re-



duced this to £30. Evidently considerable alienation took place, for in 1865, the rent was only £16. In 1868, the lease was in the names of William Telford and Charles D. Fisher. Another change of ownership occurred in 1871, when John Gidley purchased. He sold in 1875, to Charles Hutton, the then holder of **Eldorado East**, and from this time the two portions of the old run remained in the same hands, Charles and Thomas Hutton being lessees in 1879.

#### FARLEYER (Co. Benambra).

Situate near the head of the Tallangatta creek, it was originally part of **Tallangatta** run.

It is first gazetted as a separate lease in 1873, when Archibald Menzies was assessed a rent of £76 for it. It was sublet by him to Elliott Heriot, of **Carabobala**, and does not appear in later lists as a separate holding.

#### GIBBO (Co. Benambra). (A bald, high mounutain.)

The name is derived from the native word for a boy about to be initiated into manhood, and wearing the white clay cap usual before the ceremony.

Situate east of the **Mitta Mitta** blocks; this is very rough country, and often unstocked most of the year.

John Higgins, who held 13,000 acres here in 1862, is said to have been the first to occupy it. The land was all 4th class, and the rent fixed at £78 per annum. This Higgins refused to pay in the following year, and it was accordingly forfeited. The next official notice is not till 1871, when M. Crawford, with John and Daniel Carmody, paid a rent of £26. They are also given as the lessees in 1879. This area was unoccupied during the summer of 1918-19.

Old maps show besides the above holding on the Gibbo creek, Wheeler's Gibbo, on the north, and Toak's Gibbo on the south, covering Mount Benambra and the Dark river country, but the "Gazette" lists do not give any information about them, and they are known only to have been used occassionally as summer country in bad seasons.

#### GOORAMADDA (Co. Bogong). (A grassy place.)

On the south bank of the Murray east of **Wahgunyah**. Formed by Thomas Clarke and Lindsay Brown, in 1839. The first homestead was built on the Indigo Creek,

£38/10/-. In 1868, John Badcock purchased, and held it till 1873, when it passed to F. G. Docker. In 1879, Henry Conolly took possession and the rent was fixed at £117/10/-, with the result that it was forfeited for non-payment in 1880.

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#### ELDORADO EAST.

The portion of **Eldorado** run which covered the site of the town of Chiltern, and lying east of the Black Dog Creek. The area was 20,000 acres, and it appears to have been purchased from W. F. Baker by Dr. Gemmell, of Wangaratta, from whom it passed to Dalgety and Co., who placed Thomas Noyes in charge. In 1861, they paid a rent of £12. Re-appraisement in 1862, placed 10,000 acres in the 3rd, and 10,000 acres in the 4th class, with a considerable increase of rent. It was estimated to carry 1800 cattle. Appeal secured a reduction again to £16. The run was sold in 1868 to Dr. Grainger Muir Brough, but by 1871 had been transferred to Wm. Sloane and Co., who in 1875 again transferred to Chas. Hutton. He was succeeded before 1879 by Thomas and Charles Hutton.

#### ELDORADO WEST.

The western portion of the old **Eldorado** run with an area also of 20,000 acres. This was bought by Jason Withers, of **Ulina**, before 1854, when he was assessed at 9,000 sheep. In 1857, J. F. Garlick paid a rent of £22/10/-, and the lease remained in his name till 1861, when it reverted to Jason Withers. The 1862 valuation placed 10,000 acres in the 3rd, and 10,000 acres in the 4th class, with a rent of £180. Appeal in the following year re-



duced this to £30. Evidently considerable alienation took place, for in 1865, the rent was only £16. In 1868, the lease was in the names of William Telford and Charles D. Fisher. Another change of ownership occurred in 1871, when John Gidley purchased. He sold in 1875, to Charles Hutton, the then holder of **Eldorado East**, and from this time the two portions of the old run remained in the same hands, Charles and Thomas Hutton being lessees in 1879.

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**GIBBO** (Co. Benambra). (A bald, high mountain.)

The name is derived from the native word for a boy about to be initiated into manhood, and wearing the white clay cap usual before the ceremony.

Situate east of the **Mitta Mitta blocks**: this is very rough country, and often unstocked most of the year.

John Higgins, who held 13,000 acres here in 1862, is said to have been the first to occupy it. The land was all 4th class, and the rent fixed at £78 per annum. This Higgins refused to pay in the following year, and it was accordingly forfeited. The next official notice is not till 1871, when M. Crawford, with John and Daniel Carmody, paid a rent of £26. They are also given as the lessees in 1879. This area was unoccupied during the summer of 1918-19.

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**GOORAMADDA** (Co. Bogong). (A grassy place.)

On the south bank of the Murray east of **Wahgunyah**. Formed by Thomas Clarke and Lindsay Brown, in 1839. The first homestead was built on the Indigo Creek,

and was known as "The Old Lagoon Hut." In 1848, they held 36,000 acres, estimated to carry 300 cattle or 6,000 sheep. In 1851, Clarke retired from the partnership in favour of Brown. In 1857, the area is gazetted considerably larger, being then 57,000 acres, supposed to carry 1,000 cattle and 50 horses. This increase implies that Brown was interested in some neighbouring run, which is not mentioned, and which he subsequently relinquished, as in 1862 he is only credited with 21,000 acres of 3rd, and 7,000 acres of 4th class land. His rent was increased to £294, but on appeal reduced to £22/10/-. Brown sold to Boulds Bros., of **Boorahaman**, in 1865, and three years later the lease was transferred to Charles Edgehill and Jane Alicia O'Neill. Within a few years, the whole run had become freehold in the hands of many prosperous settlers.

#### GOULD'S RUN (Co. Bogong).

A small holding on the upper Ovens river, near Harrietville. Held in 1865 by R. Gould, at a rent of £6 for 14,700 acres, it passed by 1875 to P. Howman, who in 1879, paid a rent of £5.

#### GRASSDALE (Co. Bogong).

A name applied to the back country of **Tatonga** run.

#### GRAVEL'S or GRAVEL'S PLAINS (Co. Benambra).

Situate on the Corryong or Tangulla creek, the name is supposed by some to have been derived from a very early resident in the neighbourhood, a Government man, who took to the bush from the Tumut side, and who was known as "Gravel's Jack," but it is just as likely that he derived his cognomen from the place.

Originally part of the **Tintaldra** run, it was formed as an out station by Rowland Shelley, for his brother, George, in 1838, Ham's Official Map, of 1847, shows it as "the estate of William Shelley," while the "Gazette," of 1848, gives George Shelley as the holder of the "Gravels," being the remaining portion of the run formerly gazetted as **Tintaldra**—with an area of 16,000 acres, estimated to carry 700 cattle.

By 1854, Matthew Hervey had purchased it, and sold it in 1861 to C. Brown. The latter was in 1862, and also



in 1865, assessed at 1820 cattle, carried on 16,000 acres of 3rd class land. In 1868, P. D. Reid and R. W. Shadforth were the holders, and in the following year, Cyrus Edmond Smith was in possession.

Soon after this some subdivision must have taken place, for in 1871, Thomas Mitchell is gazetted as the holder of a lease here at a rent of £48. Cyrus Smith also holding some portion which he sold in 1879 to John Whitehead, who again sold to Thos. B. Waters in the following year.

#### GUNDOWRING, or GUNDOWRINGHA (Co. Bogong). (A camping place.)

On the right bank of the Little river, south of **Tangambalanga**. Formed by Charles Henry Barbour, in 1838, the lease was held in 1845 by G. H. and Benjamin Barbour. In 1848, Isabella Barbour was credited with holding 18,250 acres, estimated to carry 1000 cattle.

Charles Henry Barbour still resided there, and before 1862, the lease had again been recorded in his name. The area in that year was given as 8,000 acres of 3rd, and 8,000 acres of 4th class, with a rental of £144. From this time much alienation took place and the lease remained in the same hands with a reduced rental in 1865 of £73, and in 1879, only £31/5/-. C. H. Barbour held it till his death, in 1882, and shortly after his relatives sold the remainder to John McDonald, with whose family it still remains (1919).

#### GUY'S FOREST (Co. Benambra).

This is a rough district, south of **Burrowye** and **Walwa** runs, which does not appear in the "Gazette" as a separate holding. The name is derived from the first holders, the Brothers Guy or Guise, from **Cunningdroo**, who are said to have stocked it as early as 1837. At one time they laid claim to a large extent of country south of the Murray, including the river frontage of **Tintaldra**. The position of the lease on the old map would show that it was almost identical with the **South Burrowye** lease.

#### HAPPY VALLEY, or RUNNING CREEK (Co. Bogong).

South-east of Myrtleford, and west of **Tawanga**.

William Forlonge first settled here in 1838, or 1839, forming it on behalf of the firm of W. and A. Forlonge.

They held it a few years, but by 1847 it had passed to John Malcolm. It does not appear in the "Gazette" lists till 1862, when John Woodside is given as holding 6,000 acres of 3rd, and 6,000 acres of 4th class land. The rent was then fixed at £108, but Woodside, who had held it several years, appealed, and before 1865, secured a reduction to £54. He held it till 1871, when the rent was again largely increased to £133, with the result that the following year it was forfeited for non payment of this amount.

#### HINNOMUNGIE (Cos. Bogong and Benambra).

Situate on the Livingstone creek, and extending into the two adjoining counties, it included the township of Omeo. It was first formed in 1842, by James Day, acting for Edward Crooke. Crooke held it in 1848, when he was credited with 36,000 acres, estimated to carry 2,000 cattle. At this time he also held **Omeo** and **Bindi** runs, further south. In 1853, the area was defined as 39,480 acres, estimated to carry 10,468 sheep, at a rental of £80. Crooke sold to Matthew Hervey before 1861, and in 1862 it was all placed in the 4th class, and the rent fixed at £216. Hervey held it till 1867, when he sold to William Degra-  
vates, and in 1871, the lease stood in the names of C. and J. Degra-  
vates, with a rent of £109. They sold to Wilson, Dougharty and Rhind, the lessees in 1879. John Scott holds it in 1919.

#### JALLANDOON. See **Tallandoon**.

#### JINGELLIC, or JINGELLE SOUTH (Co. Benambra).

On the left bank of the Murray opposite the mouth of the Jingellie creek. The name is also found as "**Gingellack**," and "**Gingellock**."

The first formation of this run has been ascribed to Guise Bros, and also Hervey Bros., but the earliest name connected with it officially is J. A. Broughton, the then owner of **Gocup** run, near Tumut, who married a daughter of Commissioner Bingham. The date is certainly as early as 1840. Ham's Official Map, of 1847, gives Broughton as the owner, and in 1848, the area was 31,168 acres, estimated to carry 800 cattle.

In 1850, Broughton transferred to Robert Cook, or Cook, better known by the name given him by the natives,



"Teddy Coborn," who is said to have at the same time owned **Jingellie North**, on the opposite bank of the Murray. Apparently Cook did not fully stock, for W. and H. Scott, the lessees of the adjoining **Burrowye** run, leased it. In 1853, Cook was assessed for 3488 sheep on 31,000 acres. By 1855, the lease had been transferred to Alexander Elmslie, and when re-appraised in 1862, he held it in conjunction with his partner, Strachan. The area then was 13,500 acres of 3rd, and 13,500 acres of 4th class land, estimated to carry 2460 cattle. The rent was accordingly fixed at £243, but soon reduced on appeal, and we find Charles MacKenzie the lessee in 1865, paying only £29/10/-. In 1868, he sold to Thomas Paris Fenner, who transferred to John Hore, in 1873. By 1876, John James Crowe had acquired it, but in 1879, it stood in the name of J. G. Dougharty.

#### **JIRRAMUL or JERRIMUL (Co. Benambra).**

On the Jirramul creek, between **Tintaldra** and **Towong**.

Originally part of **Tintaldra**, it was gazetted as a separate holding in 1845. The area then was 8,000 acres, and the owner Rowland John Shelley. Ham's Official Map, of 1848, shows it as "**Toolry**," and owned by Mrs. Guise. Hay and Chalmers purchased it in 1853, and in 1854 sold it to Matthew Hervey. The next occupant was Sydney G. Watson, who in 1862, was assessed a rent of £75, on 2,500 acres of 3rd, and 7,500 acres of 4th class land. By 1865, the rent was reduced to £11, the lease remaining with S. G. Watson in 1879.

#### **JUNCTION, THE (Co. Bogong and Delatite).**

##### **Adjoining Porepunkah.**

This was a small run, extending both sides of the Ovens river. It is first mentioned in the "**Gazette**" of 1848, when William Walker and Co. owned it. J. P. Smith was in charge of this and the adjoining **Porepunkah** run. In 1853, Richard Clarke held 8640 acres which were transferred to John Whitehead before 1875.

#### **KANGAROO GROUND (Co. Benambra).**

On the Coo-ya-long Creek, 15 miles east of Tallangatta.

Originally an out station of **Tallangatta**, it was taken up with that run in 1838, or 1839, probably by David

Wilson. Ham's Map of 1847, shows Tooth's station here, but there is no mention of it in the "Gazette" till 1848, when David Wilson held 16,000 acres, reckoned to carry 600 cattle. He held it till 1862, when 8,000 acres were placed in the 3rd, and 8,000 acres in the 4th class, at a rent of £144. This was reduced on appeal to £26. In 1868, it had passed with the parent run to Menzies and Nicoll, who not long after sold it to Smithwick. He sold in 1876, and in 1879, the lease was held by the London Chartered Bank.

#### KEELANGIE (Co. Benambra).

##### South of Burrowye.

An outstation attached to **Thologolong** in 1873, when W. J. Singleton was gazetted as owner. In 1879 it was still attached to the same run, then owned by Alexander Stewart.

#### KERGUNYAH, KERGUNNIA, or KERGIUNA (Co. Bongong). (A camping place.)

On the Little river, 12 miles east of Yackandandah.

Formed in 1838 by John Morrice, David Mackenzie and Robert Wylde, three shipmates and teachers in a Sydney Grammar School, then in 1848 were assessed on 11,000 acres estimated to carry 700 cattle. In 1850, Morrice retired from the partnership and the two remaining partners soon after sold to James and Henry Osborne, of Kackandandah. In 1853, the assessment was 4,200 sheep, but it was increased in 1854 to 6,000. In 1862, J. and H. Osborne held 4,000 acres of 3rd, and 12,000 acres of 4th class land at a rental of £120. Appeal, as usual, secured reduction, this time to £24/15/-. In 1868, Francis H. Shadforth purchased it and soon after sold to David Wallace, in whose family it still remains. The "Gazette" retained Shadforth's name as lessee as late as 1879. Stewart Wallace holds it in 1919.

#### KIEWA, or KIE-WAH (Co. Cobong). (Sweet water.)

On the Sandy creek, east of **Tangambalanga**, and north of **Gundowring**, it has also been known as **Sandy Creek**, and Ham's Map of 1847, shows it as **Whitefield's** station.

It is first noticed in the "Gazette" of 1848, when Thomas King held the lease. In 1857 he sold to Charles H. Barber and Octavius Plumer. Thomas Mitchell must



have soon after become interested, as he sold to John Woodside before 1862. The area then was 13,000 acres of 4th class land, with a rent of £78. An appeal reduced this to £37 in the following year. Woodside still held it in 1879, though the rent had again been increased to £46/17/6.

#### KINGORA (Co. Bogong).

Originally part of **Yackandandah**, when Osborne forced that run in 1837, it is situated at the head of Yackandandah creek, and only appears in the "Gazette" as a separate holding once. This was in 1848, when it was held by J. Roberts.

#### KOETONG or COO-YA-TONG (Co. Benambra). (A place of echoes; also said to be from "Quedong," frost.)

On the road from Tallangatta to Corryong.

First mentioned in 1848, when it was held by Heape and Grice, as an out station of **Bungil**. It appears generally to have been an appendage of that run, for in 1854, it passed with it from F. J. Payne to R. Duff. In 1862, also, R. G. C. Duff was managing it for Goldsborough, Rowe and Kirk. In 1865, it passed with the parent run to Bear and McMahon, and again in 1868, to Goldsborough and Co., who still held it in 1879 at a rent of £15.

#### KONINGARNA, or CONGINARRAH (Co. Bogong).

The position of this small holding is doubtful. Ham, in 1847, shows it just north of the Murray, about 5 miles west of Albury, with the owner's name as "Koningham." Well's "Gazetter," of 1848, also shows it, but just south of the Murray, at the mouth of the Indigo creek, and gives the owner's name as "Cunningham." An old resident identifies it as a small holding near the mouth of the Indigo creek, which he says was once owned by a man named "Cunningham," and was then known as "Mosquito Alley." This property passed to Andrew Aitken and Gray, and later was merged in the Gooramadda Holding.

#### LAKE FINDLAY (Co. Benambra).

Part of the back country of **Thologolong** run.

It appears but twice as a separate holding. In 1871, Sloane and Jeffries are given as the lessees, and in 1876,

when C. S. Singleton is credited with holding 22,000 acres here. In both cases it appears to have been held in conjunction with **Thologolong**.

#### LILLIPUT (Co. Bogong).

Situate between Springhurst and Rutherglen.

It was taken up in 1844 by James Gullifer, one of the first party to bring stock to the Murray. He had lived previously to the formation of this run for two years on **Bonegilla**, and also taken part in the forming of **Pechelba** run. Gullifer settled here in 1844. The name was suggested by the Crown Lands Commissioner, when the owner was unable to make a choice, and it may be presumed to have been somewhat suggested by the area being smaller than most of the neighbouring holdings. Originally the Doma Mungi and Diddah Diddah creeks were the boundaries, and the area was 16,000 acres. In 1847, George Grey was interested with Gullifer, and in 1848, the area is given as 14,000 acres, fit to carry 800 cattle. In 1853, the lease stood in Grey's name, though Gullifer was in possession. The area had then been further reduced to 13,430 acres, estimated to carry 4103 sheep. In 1862, Gullifer was assessed on 2370 acres of 3rd and 7110 acres of 4th class land, at a rent of £71; but this was reduced by appeal to £36. The holding was gradually alienated till in 1880 the remnant which only consisted of 25 acres, was advertised for sale. Gullifer resided on the preemptive section till his death in 1898.

#### LIMESTONE (Co. Benambra).

A small holding of 15,000 acres of 4th class land, N.E. of **Omeo**. Held in 1862 by A. Fraser, it was estimated to carry 900 cattle. Before 1868, it had passed to James Pendergast, who held it in 1879, at a rent of £15. He still holds the lease (1919).

Another authority states that Pendergast formed this holding early in the "fifties," and held it for some years, but no official record has been found to support the statement.

#### LIMESTONE CREEK. See Bungoona.

#### LITTLE PORTLAND. See Port Punkah.



**LOCKHART'S CHEEK** (Co. Bogong).

Between **Bungoona** and **Tatonga**.

A small holding owned by Hamlet Fletcher from 1874 to 1876, when he sold it to George Temple. No other reference has been found. It is now (1919) the property of Mrs. James Sutherland.

**LURGAN GREEN** (Co. Benambra).

Part of the back country of **Thologolong**.

Alexander Stewart held a lease here of 10,600 acres in 1876, in conjunction with **Thologolong** run.

**MAGORRA, MAGORA** or **WANGERAR** (Co. Bogong).

Near Granite Flat, on the Snowy creek—a tributary of the Mitta Mitta. It first appears in the "Gazette" in 1849, when 4480 acres on the bank of the Mitta is advertised as a "Vacant Run," formerly occupied by Samuel Bowler. In 1850, William Wyse was lessee, and in 1852, Messrs Ingham and Marsden held it. In 1856, John Aherne paid a rent of £10 for it, but it again fell into the hands of Samuel Bowler, who in 1862, was assessed on the area as 3rd class land, a rent of £53, it being then estimated to carry 530 cattle. Later the rent was reduced to £11. The lease remained in Bowler's name till 1871, after which it disappeared from the official lists.

**MITTA MITTA** (Cos. Bogong and Benambra). ("Impassable," J.J.B.)

Situate on both sides of the Mitta, south of **Yabba** run.

First taken up in 1840, by William Wyse, the first to bring stock to the district. It was a large area with undefined boundaries, and soon proved too large for Wyse to hold for himself. We find that by 1845, it had been subdivided into three blocks as follows:

**MITTA MITTA No. 1** (Co. Benambra).

On the right bank of the Mitta, south of Yabba: this block soon after Wyse first took it up passed to Samuel Bowler. The latter came from Parramatta, and was a run holder in Manaro. In 1848 he was credited with holding 20,000 acres, fit to carry 800 cattle or 6,000 sheep. In 1853, the area had been increased to 30,000 acres,

carrying 7266 sheep; but in 1862, when re-appraised, Bowler only held here 20,000 acres of 3rd class land at a rent of £240. This was reduced in the following year to £42. In 1871, the lease was still in the name of Samuel Bowler, but in 1879 it had passed to H. J. Bowler at a rent of £75.

#### MITTA MITTA No. 2 (Co. Bogong).

This is part of the original run, lying to the west of the Mitta Mitta and opposite No. 1. Block. In 1848, it consisted of 19,200 acres, estimated to carry 640 cattle. It remained in Wyse's hands, and in 1853 he paid a rent of £10. In 1855, being pressed by his creditors, he sold to John Ahearne, a well-known resident of the district. Considerable litigation followed, and the lease fell into the hands of H. T. Bowler by 1857. He held it for two or three years, when it passed to Bear and McMahon. In 1862, the whole area was placed in the 3rd class, and the rent fixed at £115. Appeal secured a reduction to £18, at which it stood in 1865. In 1868, H. T. Bowler again took possession, and he held it in 1875, with No. 1 Block, the rent then being £25.

#### MITTA MITTA WEST (Co. Bogong).

Situate about 25 miles south of the last block, on the west bank of the Mitta; it is first mentioned as a separate holding in 1868, when William Degraives paid a rent of £16. In 1871, this was increased to £100, but on appeal again reduced to the former amount. In 1876, the lease was in the names of C. and J. Degraives, but in 1879, it had passed to Wm. Wilson, J. G. Dougharty and W. G. Rhind, with a rent of £31/15/-.

In 1919, Mr. George H. Smith owns the old homestead block on No. 1. The preemptive right has been subdivided and parts are held by Messrs. Larkin and Cardwell as Executors of W. J. Alexander; other parts by Mr. George H. Peters and Mrs. H. J. Bowler.

No 2 is occupied on the eastern half, by James Lord and Sons. On the western side, we have Mr. L. J. Moncrieff, Mr. Henry Lord, Mr. Thos. Crookwell, Mr. W. J. Thomson and Mr. Walter Pearce.

The upper western or Stockyard creek portion by Mr. H. Andrews. This is where the Mitta Mitta homestead was built in 1892, by the executors of Mr. Henry Bowler.



Mrs. Bowler resided there till 1913, when having parted with 400 acres of the preemptive right, she transferred to the present owner.

On Mitta Mitta West, blocks are held by Messrs. Robert Andrews, J. T. Polmear, Joseph Courtney, S. Handford, H. C. Neilson, George Lloyd and Thos Gye.

#### MT. FRIGID (Co. Benambra).

Near the head of the Burrowye creek.

This holding only appears in the "Gazettes" of 1852 and 1854. It is described as bounded on the north by Heape and Grice (**Bungil**), and Scott's runs (**Burrowye**), on the east by Evans (**Corryong**), and west by Heape and Grice and Wilson (**Tallangatta**). William Taylor held here 20,000 acres, assessed in 1852, at 4,000 sheep. In 1854, he paid a rent of £11.

#### MT. MARTIN NORTH (Co. Bogong).

A large block of rough country on the left bank of the Mitta, opposite the **Gibbo** blocks, and only useful as summer country. The only holder of a lease here mentioned is the Bank of New South Wales, which paid a rent of £26. Frank McCann holds it now (1919).

#### MT. MARTIN SOUTH (Co. Bogong).

A similar block to the last, and again the Bank of New South Wales is the only lessee mentioned. This was in 1871, and the rent is not recorded. Now the property of James Walsh (1919).

#### MT. PLEASANT (Co. Benambra). See **Omeo B**.

#### MT. YORK (Co. Bogong).

A small block on the upper Kiewa river, south of **Mulagong**.

Originally part of **Mullindolingong**, it was taken by James Irvine in the "fifties." He sold to William Muir. It next passed to Frederic Roper, who, in 1871, paid a rent of £6. It is now in the possession of Frederic Roper, junr.

#### MT. WILLS (Co. Bogong).

A block of rough country west of **Mitta Mitta West**, held in 1862 by N. C. Jack. In 1871, W. C. Jack paid a rent of £22/15/-. In 1919, held by George Fitzgerald.

**MULAGONG, or MULAGANG (Co. Bogong).**

On the upper Kiewa river east of **Tawanga**.

This is first noticed in the "Gazette" of 1849, when it was advertised as a "vacant run," though John King is said to have formed it much earlier. It covered 4480 acres, and was described as on the Little river, south of **Gundowring**, north of Reynold's run (**Mullindolingong**), and east of Robert's run (**Dederang**).

In 1850, John King is given as lessee, and in 1853, he is charged on 4062 sheep. In February, 1854, it is again advertised "to let by tender," with an upset of £15. King again secured it, and held it in 1862, when 1120 acres were placed in the 3rd and 3360 acres in the 4th class, at a rent of £33/12/-. In 1863, it is once more advertised, this time as liable to forfeiture for non-payment of rent. Mr. John Hollands then is said to have taken possession, but in the "Gazette" of 1865, John King is credited with paying a rent of £17/16/- for it. There is no doubt that Holland succeeded King, and later transferred to George Barling, or was in partnership with him, for the "Gazette" of 1879, gives both names as lessees, with rent of £25. Shortly after Thomas Seymour purchased it.

**MULLINDOLINGONG (Co. Bogong).**

South of **Mitta Mitta No. 2**.

A large area of rough country, first taken up by Laurence Struillby, in 1842, for James Black, of **Burrangong**. Struillby describes it as "lying between the Mitta Mitta and Ovens rivers, situated to the north-west of the **Burrangong Mountains**, or Australian Alps—the highest of which (Kosciusko) was visible on very clear days." Further, he says, "**Tallamatta (Tallangatta?)** was not far from the station."

It does not appear in the "Gazette" till 1848, when Patrick Reynolds held 15,360 acres, estimated to carry 600 cattle. In 1850, he sold to James Irvine, who was in charged in 1853, on 1,160 sheep. In 1854, it passed to William Muir, or Mair, at a rent of £16. In 1862, it appears in the name of Walter Henry Roper, who was assessed on 3,480 acres of 3rd, and 11,520 acres of 4th class land. The rent was then raised to £112, but reduced in the following year to £18/10/-. Roper sold in 1868, to Nicholas Herbert, who remained the owner in 1879, at a rent of £17/10/-. In 1919 it is held by Mr. Fred. Roper.



**MURRAMUNGEE, or MURMONGIE** (Co. Bogong).  
(Murra—a hand; mongie—a mosquito, J.S.B.)

On the Owens river, adjoining **Barwidgee**.

There is no record of the first formation of this run, but in 1847 Thomas Mitchell was in possession. In 1848, he transferred to John Pearce, the area being 20,800 acres, estimated to carry 800 cattle. In 1853, Pearce was assessed on 3,419 sheep, increased in 1854, to 6,000. From him it passed to Johnson Quin, who apparently divided the run into east and west blocks.

**MURRAMUNGIE EAST** (Co. Bogong).

In 1862, Johnson Quin is gazetted as the holder of 5,500 acres of 3rd, and 5,500 acres of 4th class land under this name. In 1865, he sold to William Chambers, when the rent was £6/12/—, at which it remained in 1871. Chambers was still in possession in 1879, but the rent had been increased to £18/5/—.

**MURRAMUNGIE WEST** (Co. Bogong).

In 1862, Johnson Quin was also credited with 11,000 acres under this name, and the rent was assessed at £99, but reduced on appeal to £10/12/6. The block remained in Quin's hands in 1879, though the reduction of the rent to £3/2/6 shows that the best portions of the holding had been alienated.

**MURRA-MURRAN-BONG, MURRI-MURRAN-BONG, MERRI-MARENUNG, or MERRI-MERRIM-BONG** (Co. Bogong). (Meaning a grand or unbroken range of mountains.)

On the west of the Kiewa river, opposite **Tangambalanga**.

Formed in 1837, by Aimee A. Huon, a brother of the owner of the **Wodonga** run; it was transferred in 1839 to Thomas Mitchell, the eldest son of Mrs. Eliz. Mitchell, of **Mungabareena**.

In 1845, Hector Norman Simson purchased it and in 1848 was credited with 15,000 acres, fit to carry 1,000 cattle. Simson sold to Thomson and Aitken in 1849, and it again changed hands in 1850, when McCrae and Cobham purchased. In 1853, they were charged on 26,600 acres. In 1854, James Connor was lessee, and paid on 8,000 sheep. In 1862, Patrick and Ted Connor were gazetted as holders of 41,000 acres, but this must be a mistake as when re-appraised in that year, but 10,000 acres,

half in 3rd, and half in 4th class, was mentioned. The rent also (£90) fixed would imply a smaller area. In 1865, the "Gazette" gives the rent as £33/10/-. The lease remained in the names of P. and T. Connor in the "seventies."

#### MYRTLE CREEK (Co. Bogong).

On the right bank of the Ovens, 16 miles south of **Tarrawingee**.

Formed very early by John Hillas; he, in 1848, held 35,000 acres, supposed to carry 1,300 cattle. In 1851, the lease stood in Mrs. Hillas' name, while in 1853, Michael Hillas held 34,560 acres, and was charged on 12,981 sheep. In 1875, Messrs Black, Neil and Co., appear to have super-vened, and in 1861, Thomas Rosborough paid a rent of £20, and in 1865, Humphrey Grattan is also gazetted lessee at £27/10/-. Grattan sold in 1869 to Thomas Robertson, who still held it in 1879, when the rent was £32/10/-.

#### NARIEL (Co. Benambra).

On the Culack Culack creek, south of **Corryong**.

It is said that the native name of this place was something like "waddy mundowie," which would mean "wooden or club foot," but one of the early residents, having a deformity involving a foot, he objected to the name and asked Sir John Hay to suggest another. This he did and the present name was proposed and adopted. Another reference gives the original name as "Adgie" (water), as with Colac Colac.

First formed, it is believed, by James Hassall, in 1838 or 1839, he appears to have still owned it in 1847, but before 1850, it had passed to Charles Wheeler. He held 38,400 acres, supposed to carry 800 cattle. Evidently the holder was in the habit of making some use of the rough back country south and west of his proper area, for in 1862, we find that the lease included 26,500 acres of 3rd, and 26,500 acres of 4th class, and 51,200 acres of unclassified land. The latter was gazetted as "unavailable," whatever that may have meant. The rent was fixed at £460, as it estimated to carry 4,608 cattle. The absurdity of the appraisement was shown by the usual appeal resulting in a reduction to £28/10/-. In 1871, the rent was once more raised to £270, and again on appeal reduced to £72, at which figure Charles Wheeler remained lessee in 1879.



**NOORENGONG, NOORENGORONG, or NURIGONG**  
(Co. Benambra).

This name has various meanings given to it. "A magpie," "a lightwood tree," or the native name of the Lower Mitta river. It lies on the right bank of the river, 10 miles south of Tallangatta.

First taken up by William and James Wyse for Capt. Owen Macdonald, in 1837, there is some confusion about its occupation for a year or two, though William Wyse undoubtedly lived there till 1840, it has been often claimed that Sydney G. Watson, the well-known owner of **Walwa**, formed the first run here, but there is no record of it in the "Gazettes." In 1841, Charles and Henry Fowler, the owners of **Cumberoona** run, occupied it as a heifer run, probably by arrangement with Macdonald, as the latter held the lease in 1848, of 16,000 acres, supposed to carry 1,000 cattle. The date of the next transfer is doubtful, but in 1862, John Pinney Bear is credited with 4,000 acres of 2nd, and 12,000 acres of 3rd class land, estimated to carry 2,160 cattle. In 1863, the rent was fixed at £103. Bear held it till 1871, when it was subdivided into **Noorengong** and **Noorengong West**. H. J. Bowler was assessed a rent of £400 for the former, and A. Paton and Sons, £200 for the latter. Towards the end of the year the "Gazette" shows that Paton and Sons had secured possession of both blocks, having by appeal secured a reduction of rent on the former to £70, and the latter £47. In 1876, **Noorengong** had passed to J. J. Crowe, while Paton and Sons held the western block at a rent of £62/10/-.

**OMEQ, or OMIO A** (Co. Benambra). (Meaning mountains.)

On the Morass Creek, east of Lake Omeo.

Originally formed by John Pendergast, late in 1836, or early in 1837, he named it "The Three Brothers," but it was soon after officially named as above. Pendergast is better remembered as "Pender." He came from Wollombi, in County Northumberland, and held a run in Manaro. He reached this part by following McFarlane's track at the head of the Snowy river. In 1854, the run was estimated to carry 6,000 sheep. Later it passed to J. and J. Pendergast, who in 1861 paid a rent of £15. In the following year this was raised to £300, as classifica-

tion showed 25,000 acres of 3rd class land, estimated to carry 3,000 cattle. Appeal reduced it to £76. In 1871, the rent was again raised largely, and though reduced by appeal, the lessees were paying in 1879, £175 per annum. Evidently this proved too high for the run was forfeited for non-payment in 1880. In 1919, Mr. Charles Pendergast holds it.

OMEQ, or OMIO B (Co. Benambra).

On the Morass Creek, opposite the last (**Omeo A**).

First taken up by James MacFarlane, either late in 1835, or very early in 1836, it is possible that this was the first cattle run formed in what is now Victoria. MacFarlane had been one of Mackillop's party, when in June 1835, he discovered Omeo Plains. He named the run, "Mount Pleasant," but when surveyed the name was changed officially to Omeo B. In 1848, MacFarlane is credited with holding 51,000 acres, fit to carry 3,000 cattle, or 10,000 sheep. The next holder was W. C. Walker, who in 1861 paid a rent of £45. This was raised in the following year to £612, as the whole area was placed in the 3rd class and estimated to carry 6,120 cattle. Appeal ended in a reduced rent, and the run passed, in 1865, to William Degraives. In 1871, C. and J. Degraives were lessees, and they sold to Wilson, Dougharty and Rhind. The latter firm held it in 1879, at a rent of £168/15/-. In 1919, it is held by Mrs. John Pendergast.

POREPUNKAH, PORT PUNKAH, or LITTLE PORTLAND (Co. Bogong).

On the right bank of the Ovens river, west of Bright.

It is hardly right to say that the whole holding was ever known as "**Little Portland**," but the portion so named, and also that known as "**The Junction**," formed at one time portion of this run. The variation of the area held by various holders at different times, has led to the confusion. When first formed, it had a double frontage to the Ovens river, and the first owner is said to have been John Mitchell. In 1848, Wm. Walker and Co. held 25,000 acres, known as "**The Junction**," and 16,000 acres known as **Porepun-kah**, under one management. The manager was J. Smith, better known as "Kyeamba Smith." In 1853, W. Stue-



key owned it and was charged on 4,000 sheep. In 1855, it passed to W. W. Tracey, with a rent of £30. He also held **Wandiligong**. In 1862 Bear and Dunphy, are shown holding 8,000 acres of 3rd, and 8,000 acres of 4th class land, and the rent was raised largely, but on appeal reduced to £18/10/-. In 1865, Joseph Dunphy and William Brady were lessees and paid a rent of £61, in 1879.

#### **RAZORBACK (Co. Benambra).**

On the west bank of the Tallangatta Creek.

Originally part of **Tallangatta** run, taken up in 1839, it does not appear as a separate holding till 1865. Menzies and Nicoll then held it. In 1876, Archibald Menzies was lessee, but had sublet to Eliot Heriot, of **Carabobala**.

In 1879, it had passed with the **Tallangatta** property to J. Inglis and O'Neill.

#### **REEDY CREEK (Co. Benambra).**

A block of rough country south of **Beringama**, only available in the summer months.

**REID'S CREEK.** See **Carara-gar-mungee**.

#### **STRATHDOWNIE WEST.**

Situation doubtful, but probably near **Omeo**.

This appears but once in the "Gazette," and that in 1848, when J. Wood Beilby held it.

#### **SWIGAN CREEK (Co. Benambra).**

Another block of summer country, south of **Reedy creek**, at the head of the Wabba creek.

#### **TALGARNO (Co. Benambra).**

On the right bank of the Mitta Mitta, at its junction with the Murray. From its position it was sometimes referred to as "**The Junction**," in early days.

First formed by John Jobbins, from the neighbourhood of Lake George, either late in 1836, or early in 1837, he sold it in 1850, to John Hore. It then had an area of 40,000 acres estimated to carry 2,000 cattle. In 1862, the area had been reduced to 35,200 acres, half 3rd, and half 4th class. The rent was then raised to £316, and it was estimated to carry 3168 cattle. Hore appealed and secured a reduction to £96. In 1871, he sold to Thomas

Mitchell, who sold off most of the fine herd of cattle that Hore had raised, and then sold the run to A. K. and C. C. Findlay, who were lessees in 1879, the rent then being £109.

TALLANDOON, or JALLANDOON (Cos. Benambra and Bogong).

On the Mitta Mitta, south of **Noorengong**, and **Yabba**. Lockharte and Clarke formed this run in 1839. By 1845, Mackenzie had replaced Clarke in the firm, but in 1848, the lease was again in the names of the former partners. They held 16,000 acres supposed to carry 900 cattle. In 1853, the assessment was changed to 5,444 sheep. Before 1859, it had passed to Richard Grice, at a rent of £15. When re-appraised in 1862, it was in the possession of Kidd and Brickell, the well-known Albury storekeepers of the time. There were 4,000 acres of 3rd, and 12,000 acres of 4th class land. In 1865, when the rent was £62, they sold to Kaye and Butchart, and three years later it passed to John Cox, of **Mangoplah**. In 1871, the rent was increased to £300, but on appeal reduced to £61. In 1873, Paton Bros. bought it, and it remained with them in 1879.

TALLANGATTA, or TALLANGETTA (Co. Benambra). ("Toolangutta"—abundant currajong trees.)

On the right bank of the Mitta Mitta, 28 miles east of Wodonga.

There is some doubt as to the person who first formed this run. One authority gives a man named "Tooth," acting in 1838, while other records show that Wilson Bros. represented by David Wilson, were there certainly in 1839, if not in 1838. They held it in 1840, but by 1848, the lease was in the name of James Wilson. He held 45,000 acres, sufficient to carry 1,500 cattle. In 1849, Garad and Perot unsuccessfully entered a Caveat against the renewal of the lease to Wilson. In 1853, he was charged on 11,554 sheep. In 1857, J. Findlay was managing for Wilson. The classification of 1862, showed half in the 3rd, and half in the 4th class, with the same area. After appeal, the rent was fixed at £108.

Wilson sold to Menzies and Nicoll, in 1868. Archibald Menzies managed for the firm, and in 1870, purchased it with 815 acres of freehold and 2654 cattle. He held it till 1877, when he sold to J. Inglis and H. O'Neill, who held it in 1879.



Out of the original area as first taken up, we find that in later years, **Annandale**, **Kangaroo Ground**, **Razorback**, **Farleyer**, and **Weem**, were made into separate holdings.

**TANGAMBALANGA**, or **TANYA-MA-LANYA** (Co. Bogong). (A white-clawed lobster.)

On the right bank of the Kiewa river, opposite **Murra-murran-bong**. The native name of the site of the homestead was "Gerareana," while the spot to which the station name should properly apply was about two miles higher up the stream. A very old resident states that he also heard the natives, before the homestead was built, apply the name "Thongabullong," to it, but that they changed it when the whites took possession.

The run was formed by J. Smith, a native of Scotland, and as before mentioned, better known as "Kyeamba Smith." He was acting for William Walker. It was used as a heifer run, and shortly after became known as Walker's Dairy Station. In 1840, John Morrice, of **Kergunnia**, and John Vardy stocked it temporarily. In 1848, Smith was still in charge for Walker and Co., and occupied 20,000 acres, supposed to carry 1,000 cattle.

Dr. Mackay, of **Tarrawingee**, bought it soon after, and sold in 1852, to Thomas Mitchell, so well known as a Protector of Aborigines in that part. In 1854, the assessment was on 4,000 sheep. In 1862, the area had been reduced to 9,700 acres, estimated to carry 1391 cattle. The rent was fixed at £139, but as usual on appeal reduced again to £48. Mitchell sold to Thomas Reidy in 1874, and from him it passed to Thomas Brown, who held a remnant in 1879—most of the holding having by that time been made freehold.

**TARRAWINGEE** (Co. Bogong). ("Karawingi"—an emu.)

Situate S.E. of **Carara-gar-mungee**.

Dr. William Bowman and Col. White were both camped in this neighbourhood at the end of 1837. White passed on with his stock over the Goulburn, while Bowman was compelled to abandon his run and stock for a time on account of native troubles.

About June or July, 1838, he returned and reformed the station. He lived but a few years, as in 1844, his

widow sold it to Sir Francis Murphy. In 1848, he was charged on 12,000 sheep, carried on 50,000 acres. Ham's Map, of 1847, shows George Grey holding a lease here, and again in 1851, Reid Bros. also, but the Government "Gazette" shows Murphy as lessee, so we must conclude that if the others held country here it must have been by arrangement with the lessee. Murphy held it as late as 1857, but in 1862, Dr. George Mackay was assessed on 40,000 acres, of which one-third was in the 3rd, and the balance in the 4th class. The rent was fixed at £416, but largely reduced, as in other cases. In 1865, Mackay paid a rent of £31/3/4. In 1868, the lease stood in the name of the Melbourne Banking Corporation, and they transferred to Arthur Dight. He sold to Francis Mackay, who, late in 1879, transferred to Charles Ibbotson, when the rent was £37/10/-.

#### TATONGA (Co. Bogong).

On the left bank of the Mitta, opposite **Tallangatta**.

Originally part of **Bungoona**, it does not appear as a separate lease till 1865, when Joseph Crowe held 22,980 acres at a rent of £35. William Crowe was lessee in 1868, and sold to Sloane and Jeffrey before 1871. In that year the rent was raised to the absurd figure of £308, but greatly reduced on appeal. In 1874, it was in the hands of Hamlet Fletcher, who in 1876 sold to George Temple, with the **Bungoona** and **Lockhart's Creek** holdings. In 1877, McNicoll had a short sublease, but in 1879, it stood in the name of George Temple.

#### TAWANGA or TOWONGA (Co. Bogong).

On the Kiewa river, south of **Dederang**.

This first appears in the lists of 1847, when James Roberts held it in conjunction with **Bungoona**. It was then estimated to carry 440 cattle on 20,000 acres. In 1850, Roberts transferred to John Routh, but as late as 1853, Roberts' name still appeared in the "Gazette." The assessment was then on 7129 sheep. In 1854, Thomas Ibbotson, of Geelong, was substituted. The rent was then £11. In 1862, Charles Ibbotson owned, and A. Mackinnon managed the run. It was classified as half 3rd, and half 4th class, and the rent fixed at £46. It remained in Ibbotson's hands in 1879, and now is held by some of his descendants named Hobbs.



**THIRLINGANANGA, or THRILINGALANGA** (Co. Boggong).

On Snake creek, one mile south of Yackandandah.

Formed by George Kinchington, in 1845, he in 1848 held 64,000 acres, supposed to carry 500 cattle. On re-appraisal in 1862, he is credited with 16,000 acres of 3rd, 16,000 acres of 4th class, and 32,000 unavailable, for which he was charged a rent of £288, but appeal showed the absurdity of the charge as it was reduced to £16/10/-. It was again raised in 1871, but was only £25 in 1879 when Kinchington still held it.

**THOLOGOLONG** (Co. Benambra). (A plain with a creek.)

On the south bank of the Murray, east of **Bungil**.

In 1836, Spalding and party attempted to settle here, but losing two of their men, who were murdered by the natives, they abandoned it. Later in the same year, Luke and James Redhall, with John Vardy (probably as manager) are credited with forming the run, but it is probable that the date should be 1837. In 1845, Redfern and Alexander were in possession, but transferred to Wm. Walker and Co. before 1848. The area then is given as 20,000 acres, estimated to carry 640 cattle. In 1853, the lease was in the name of F. S. Payne, followed in August, 1854, by R. Duff, the rent then being £35. It is probable that Duff was merely in charge as manager, for in 1857, the "Gazette" gives Charles Payne as owner. As however the rent he was called on to pay was only £10, he may have held only a portion of the run. Again in 1860, R. G. C. Duff is given as the holder, presumably for Goldsborough and Co., who in 1862, were assessed on 20,000 acres of 4th class land, a rent, after appeal, of £65. In 1868, W. J. Singleton had acquired it, and in 1874, held it in conjunction with **Annandale**. In the following year it was divided into North and South blocks, the former in the name of W. J. Singleton, and the latter of G. L. Singleton. The year 1876 appears to have been a troublous one in its history, for in July it was advertised as abandoned, and open for grazing license. Alexander Stewart then purchased the freehold, with 15,490 sheep and 540 cattle. James Jeffers became lessee of 14,000 acres, C. S. Singleton of 22,000 acres at **Lake Findlay**, and Alexander Stewart of 10,000 acres at **Lurgan**

**Green.** Stewart held the property till 1885, when he sold to Cushing, Sutherland and Co., and in 1898, the firm became Sutherland and Sutherland.

#### THOUGLA, THOUGALA (Co. Benambra).

On the Tangulla creek, south and east of **Corryong**.

First mentioned in 1848, when it was held by C. C. Wildash. The area was then 9,600 acres, supposed to carry 700 cattle. In 1850, Wildash sold to Robert Cooke, who, in 1853, was charged on 5,706 sheep. In 1854, this was raised to 6,000. Alexander Elmslie held it in 1856, at £15 per annum, and transferred to Thomas Regan before 1861. In 1862, it was all placed in the 4th class. In 1865 Albert Kingston Sheppard was gazetted as lessee, and in 1868, Joseph Hanson. In 1871, the rent was raised to £170, but reduced soon after to £37/10/-. In 1873, Thomas Mitchell became owner, but in 1875 it is gazetted as liable to forfeiture for non-payment of rent. It then passed to the Bank of Australasia, but in 1880 was again forfeited.

#### THREE BROTHERS RUN (Co. Benambra). See **Omeo A.**

#### TINTALDRA (Co. Benambra).

On the left bank of the Upper Murray, at its junction with the Cudgewa creek.

Taken up in 1837 by Rowland Shelley, for his brother, William, from County Argyle, the latter did not long enjoy the property. In 1845 his executors applied for a grazing license. In 1848, it had passed to George Shelley, and he held 18,000 acres to carry 1200 cattle. By 1853 the area had been increased, and the run had changed hands, for Hay and Chalmers were charged for 7794 sheep on 24,000 acres. In 1854, Matthew Hervey was in possession, and sold it in 1858 to Sydney G. Watson. In 1862, the rent was estimated for a supposed capacity to carry 1620 cattle, but reduced on appeal to £28/15/4. In 1879, Watson paid a rent of £31.

#### TOM GROGGIN, or GROGGAN (Co. Benambra). (From "Ton-a-roggin," a water spider.)

A rough and almost inaccessible block, on Limestone creek, with small rich river flats; about 50 miles from Corryong.



First mentioned in 1853, when Wight and Tandy held it and were assessed on 4,000 sheep. In February, 1854, tenders were called for letting at an upset price of £10. James MacFarlane then took it, and held it for some years, and about 1861, passed it to W. G. Walker. Evidently, as with other runs, the rent was greatly increased in 1862, for in 1863, it is advertised as liable to forfeiture for non-payment of £120 rent. In 1868, John Barry held it at a rent of £2/10/- and a stock assessment of £20.

**TOOLRY.** See **Jerrimul**.

**TOWONG** (Co. Benambra). ("Go away," J.J.B.)

This run is situated on the Upper Murray, south of **Tintaldra**, and opposite **Bringembrong**. Some early maps show it as "**Nowong**."

Taken up by Richard and William Guise in 1838, the former appears to have made it his headquarters. Richard Guise died in 1844, and in 1845, the lease was in his widow's name. She married again a man named Alleyne, and in 1848, the lease is shown in the name of Mrs. Eliza Alleyne. The area was 25,000 acres, and estimated to carry 1200 cattle. Sir Donald Larnach, of New Zealand, married a daughter of Richard Guise, and after her death her step sister, Miss Alleyne.

By 1853, Matthew Hervey had purchased the run, and in 1854, was charged on 6,000 sheep. In 1857, the "Gazette" gives Thomas W. Elliott as managing for Mrs. Bowen Jones, but there must have been some delay in transferring the lease, as the assessment in 1862 shows Matthew Hervey as still holding 25,000 acres of 4th class land. Mrs. Jones certainly owned it for some years before 1865, when she sold it to James Findlay, who still held it in 1879, at a rent of £48/15/-.

**ULINA**, or **ULTIMA** (Co. Bogong).

On the Doma Mungi creek, west of Chiltern.

First occupied in 1838 by the Rev. Joseph Docker, as part of **Bontherambo**, it became a separate holding in 1839, under Jason Withers. In 1848, he is credited with holding 19,000 acres, carrying 5,000 sheep. Well's "Gazetter," of this year, also gives Benjamin Barber as the lessee, but this is probably due to his confusing it with **Barnawatha** run adjoining it on the west, and then owned by Barber. In 1849, the Rev. Joseph Docker unsuccessful-

fully appealed against a renewal of the lease to Withers. In 1853, the assessment was on 5624 sheep. In 1862, the area had been reduced to 6,500 acres of 3rd, and 6,500 acres of 4th class land, and the rent, after appeal was fixed at £11/14/-. In 1870, Withers sold to James Chandler and Robert Turner, the rent that they paid was £20. The lease was forfeited in 1880.

**WABBA** (Co. Benambra). (A bronze-wing pigeon.)

West of Corryong, on the Wabba creek, and south of **Cudgewa**.

This appears in Wyld's Map of 1840, as Smith's Station, and again in 1847, Ham's Official Map shows it as Tooth's Station, but it does not appear in the "Gazette" lists till 1848, when Robert Young held 13,000 ac., estimated to carry 700 cattle or 5,000 sheep. It was purchased by Thomas Whitehead, in 1849. In 1862, the area was the same, but 3,000 acres were in the 3rd, and 10,000 acres in the 4th class. A high rent was fixed, but as usual reduced on appeal to £22. It was again, later, raised to £45, which Whitehead continued to pay in 1879.

**WAGRA**, or **WARGRA** (Co. Benambra). (From "Wahgra," the cry of a crow.)

On the right bank of the Mitta Mitta, south of **Tal-langatta**.

First mentioned in 1848, when David Wilson held 13,500 acres, fit to carry 1,000 cattle. In 1850, Wilson sold to Hugh Glass, who in 1853, sold to Charles Moore. The assessment then was 8,000 sheep. In 1862, 3750 acres were placed in the 3rd, and 11,250 acres in the 4th class. The rent was fixed at £112, but reduced on appeal to £57. Moore held the lease till late in the "seventies," but in 1879, it was registered in the name of the Bank of Australasia, and in the following year, forfeited for non-payment of rent. Now (1919) in occupation of Henry H. Pearce.

**WAHGUNYAH** (Co. Bogong). (Said to be derived from "Wargun," the cry of a crow; more probably from "Wah," mud and "Gunyah," home or camp).

On the left bank of the Murray, 30 miles below Albury.

Formed in 1839, by John Foord, John Conquest, George Worcester and J. Crisp, we find it in the "Ga-



zette" of 1845, as held by Crisp and Foord. In 1848, they held 30,000 acres, estimated to carry 1,200 cattle. In 1851, the lease stood in the name of J. Crisp. Some other dealings with it must have taken place, for in 1853, the "Gazette" notes a transfer from John Mackenzie to John Foord, the previous owner. He was then assessed on 7745 sheep. In 1856, Foord laid out the township, and in 1857, he is credited with holding 34,000 acres, carrying 880 cattle and 48 horses. In 1859, J. C. Read was the lessee, representing the firm of Read and Younger. In 1862, their rent was fixed at £241 on 13,750 acres of 3rd, and 13,750 acres of 4th class land, but on appeal, reduced to £25. In 1868, H. J. Younger sold his share to Read, and returning to Scotland, became the head of the large brewery business of Younger and Co., in Edinburgh. Much alienation of land followed, and in 1874, the remainder of the lease was forfeited for non-payment of rent.

**WALWA, or WALLEWA** (Co. Benambra). (A place of waters, or "to do with water.")

Formed by William Guy or Guise in or about 1839, it is said to have passed to Hervey Bros very early, but in 1848, was owned by Sydney Godolphin Watson. The area was then 20,000 acres, estimated to carry 500 cattle or 3,000 sheep. In 1862 the same owner was assessed on 10,000 acres of 3rd, and 10,000 acres of 4th class land, a rent of £180, reduced later to £46. In 1871, it was again raised to £66, and stood at that figure in 1879, still in the possession of Watson.

**WANGERAR** (Co Benambra). See **Magorra**.

This is said to have been identical with **Magorra**, and is only once mentioned in the "Gazette." It is described in 1852, as west of **Mitta Mitta**, east of Snowy creek, 20 miles from William Wyse's station; area doubtful, but estimated to carry 640 cattle. The holders of the lease were Ingham and Marsden. The lessee in 1919, is Mr. J. Conway.

**WEEM.** (Co. Benambra).

The northern portion of the original **Tallangatta** run.

This is not noted as a separate lease till 1871, when it was held by Archibald Menzies. He sold it in 1873, to Thomas Ley, who is given as the owner in 1879.

**WERMATONG** (Co. Benambra). (A spear handle.)

The name is also said to be derived from the aboriginal for "wooden, or strong arm," one of the earliest employees having lost an arm, and his remaining limb being abnormally strong.

On the Murray, between **Walwa** and **Tintaldra**.

Formed by Rowland Shelley in 1837, the history of the next few years is doubtful. Shelley is said to have sold to Walton, and he to Guise Bros. The "Gazette" of 1848, gives Mrs. James Alston as lessee, represented by her trustees, W. and M. Hervey. The area was 15,000 acres, fit to carry 700 cattle. In 1853, it had passed to John Alston, and he transferred to S. G. Watson in 1854. Watson held 5,000 acres of 3rd, and 10,000 acres of 4th class land here. The rent was adjusted by appeal, and reduced to £20/13/4, but he paid £28 in 1879.

**WODONGA, WOODONGA, or WOODANGA** (Co. Bogong). (An edible plant growing in a lagoon.)

On the left bank of the Murray, opposite Albury.

Formed in 1836 by Charles Huon, for his brother, Paul, this was the third run formed in what is now Victoria. Charles Huon was replaced in the management by the late William Huon, in 1846. In 1848, the area is given as 41,000 acres, fit to carry 1,400 cattle. In 1850, the lease was transferred from Paul to William Huon, who in 1853, is given as the holder of 48,000 acres, assessed at 11,446 sheep. In 1857, it was said to be carrying 2,000 cattle and 19 horses. In 1862, with the area reduced to 27,000 acres (half 3rd, half 4th class) the rent was raised to £243, but reduced on appeal to £48. Again in 1865, the rent was raised to £102/10/-, but considerable alienation taking place it was again reduced. William Huon still held the lease in 1879.

**WOLLOLONGA** (Co. Bogong). (From "Wollong," a stone, and "longa," a house.)

On the Kiewa river, between **Dederang** and **Kergunnia South**.

This was originally part of **Kergunnia**, and was sold in 1860 by Osborne Bros. to B. and J. Crosthwaite. It first appears in the "Gazette" in 1868, when Benjamin Crosthwaite paid a rent of £6. It still remains in the family.



# WOORAGEE, WOODAGA, or BOWMAN'S HEIFER RUN (Co. Bogong.)

Eight miles from Beechworth, on the road to Yack-andandah.

Said to have been formed by Dr. William Bowman, before 1840, as a heifer run, the ownership for the next few years is doubtful. In 1848, David Reid held 40,960 acres estimated to carry 6,000 sheep. He transferred to A. C. Anderson. In 1854, Dr. Gemmell, of Wangaratta, was in possession. In 1857, Mr. J. Lowrie was gazetted as lessee at a rent of £12/10/-. It then passed to Sloane and Co., who in 1862, held 24,000 acres, half 3rd, and half 4th class, and in the following year they sold to Dr. Grainger Muir Brough, whose assessment of 2160 cattle was reduced to 1600 sheep. In 1868, when Brough transferred to William and Thomas Dickson the area had been reduced to 18,000 acres, and the rent was £27. In 1875, it was gazetted as liable to forfeiture, but Dickson still held it in 1879.

# YABBA, or YABBAA (Co Benambra). (Plenty talk.)

On the Mitta Mitta, south of **Wagra** run.

Formed by J. Redfern before 1840, it had by 1845, come into the possession of William Howe, J.P., of Glenlee, or Glenleigh, on the Cowpasture river. In 1848, the lease stood in the names of Edward and William Howe, Junr., with an area of 25,000 acres, supposed to carry 800 cattle. In 1854, Messrs. MacLaurin held it with an assessment of 6,000 sheep. In 1862, the area had been reduced to 2,500 acres of 3rd, and 7,500 acres of 4th class land, charged a rent of £75.

In 1865, A. Paton and Sons, held it at a reduced rent of £46, and though this was again raised to £75, it remained in their hands in 1879, and in 1919, Mr. Archibald A. Paton holds it.

# YACKANDANDAH (Co. Bogong). (From "Yaggundoono"—hilly country; another reference says "Yakonda.")

On the creek of that name.

When first formed in 1836 or 1837, by James Osborne, this was a very large holding, as we find that at various times it was subdivided into **Lower, Upper and West** runs, also there appear in the official lists, **Yackan-**



dandah No. 1, No. 2, and at another time we have **No. 1, No. 1 West and No. 2 West**. The various changes can be best followed by taking the separate blocks.

The original headquarters were on what was later known as **Upper Yackandandah**, or **Yackandandah No. 2**, which lay to the south of the present township. The area in 1848, when first mentioned was 17,920 acres, which James Osborne then held. It was estimated to carry 1,000 cattle or 4,000 sheep. In 1854, Osborne was charged on this a rent of £80. In 1862, the same area was held by A. and J. Osborne, when it was half 3rd, and half 4th class, and the rent £101, reduced on appeal to £30, and in 1865 to £16. James Osborne, senr., died in 1868, and the lease passed to Isabella Osborne. In 1871, the preemptive right was sold separately from the lease, which was transferred to Alexander McCombie, who still held it in 1879 at a rent of £15.

#### LOWER YACKANDANDAH, THE MILL STATION, or YACKANDANDAH No. 1.

Which is on the Yackandandah creek, south of **Baranduda**, and west of **Merrimarenbung**, was separated from the original holding as early as 1839, by Thomas Mitchell, acting for his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Mitchell. He formed here what was probably the first purely sheep run in the north-east of Victoria. In 1845, the lease stood in Thomas Mitchell's name, and towards the end of the year it was transferred to David Reid. In 1846, the latter had a water mill built on one of the creeks, and henceforth the station became known as "**The Mill Station.**" In 1848, Reid held 13,200 acres, supposed to carry 400 cattle or 2,000 sheep. Soon after the opening of the adjacent goldfield, Reid sold to Dr. G. Mackay. In 1862, the latter was assessed a rent of £117 on 13,000 acres (half 3rd, and half 4th class), but this was reduced later to £13. Mackay transferred to William Telford in 1870, and in 1871 to John Robinson and George Nicolson. They in 1879, paid a rent of £11.

**YACKANDANDAH WEST** lies north of the township adjoining the **Wooragee** holding.

There is no mention of this run till 1871, when George Stephens held it. In 1875 he transferred to James Galt Orr and John Shugg, who paid a rent of £7/10/-.



In 1876, the "Gazette" gives a different naming of these runs, and attributes Yackandandah No. 1 to John Robinson and George Nicolson, as above, **No. 1. West**, to Orr and Shugg, and the original **No. 2.** as **No. 2 West**, to Alexander McCombie.

In 1879, we have George Stephens given as holding **Yackandandah West**, Robinson and Nicolson, the original run, and Orr and Shugg, **Yackandandah No. 2.**

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### RUNS NORTH OF THE MURRAY.

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**ADGINTOOTHBUNG** (Co. Selwyn). ("Adgin," water; "toothbung," cold.)

A large area of rough, chiefly summer, country on the western slope of Kosciusko, south of **Khancoban**.

It was not formed as a run till after 1853, and the boundaries varied from time to time with successive holders. The first "Gazette" notice is in 1858, when a tender by W. B. Tooth was accepted for a lease of 45,000 acres, the rent to be £13/12/3 per annum. In 1860, the lease was forfeited for non-payment of rent, and it was next taken by Summers, the father-in-law of the Hon. Matthew Hervey, in 1861.

It is doubtful how long Summers held it, but in 1871 it had passed to Goldsborough and Co. Before 1875, some sub-division or re-arrangement of boundaries had taken place and Messrs H. and C. Douglas paid a rent of £18 for a portion, which they worked in conjunction with **Bringembrong** and **Khancoban**. Messrs Scammell were also interested in another portion. The original lease appears to have been superseded, and does not figure in the official list again till 1889, when it was held by T. H. Bear.

**ADGINTOOTHBUNG EAST** (Co. Selwyn.)

Similar country to the above, and in the same neighbourhood.

Formed as a separate run by Summers in 1861, or 1862, it passed to two brothers named Thompson, and was then stocked with sheep. They held it some years and

transferred to Goldsborough and Co. Some years later Messrs W. H. and E. J. Scammell acquired the lease. They were followed by Henry Mellree, who transferred to Bair, of Grong Grong, and within a few years, much was absorbed by selection and other forms of alienation.

#### ADGINTOOTHBUNG WEST (Co. Selwyn).

Probably originally part of **Adgintoothbung** holding, it became a separate property in 1862, when Reuben Sheather, with his two stepsons, W. H. and E. J. Scammell, who took possession, it being then regarded as a "No man's land." It lies to the west of the last and the area is given as 32,000 acres. In 1871, Thomas Robertson held it at a rent of £10, and transferred to James Hillas. By 1875, the rent had been raised to £50, and Joseph Copeland, a brother of Agent-General Copeland, came into possession. Shortly after, Mr. Graham, of Ballina, Richmond river, became interested and ultimately took full possession. Much selection took place and Graham abandoned the lease.

#### ANNANDALE (Co. Goulburn).

This holding was originally portion of the **Ten Mile Creek** run, as taken up by John Purtell, in 1837. By 1839, the run had been subdivided into three blocks: No. 1, held by T. H. Bardwell, lay east of the present township of Holbrook; No. 2, south and west to the boundary of **Woomargama**, and **Ten Mile Creek West**, in the hands of John Purtell.

By 1848, No. 2 had passed from Bardwell to Samuel Bowler, and the area is given as 20,054 acres. The No 1 block, which, by the Government "Gazette" of 1854, was held by Bardwell for £10 rent on 10,663 acres, estimated to carry 3,000 sheep, remained in the Bardwell family, and George Bardwell is gazetted as lessee in 1861. The preemptive section had been confirmed to T. H. Bardwell in 1858.

In 1862, Bowler secured the No 1 block, and he begins to date impounding notices from "Upper Ten Mile Creek." In 1866, he was assessed on one block of 10,663 acres, estimated to carry 3,000 sheep at a rent of £21, and another block, carrying 400 cattle, with an area of 11,411 acres at a rent of £33.

In 1871, the rents were £21, and £65, but within four years so much selection had taken place that they were reduced to £10 and £20.



In 1876, Mr. Bowler changed the name to **Annandale**, as it stands at present, it being still owned by his descendants.

**BATTERY MOUNT.** See **Tabletop**.

**BENAMBRA.** See **Mountain Creek**.

**BILLABONG RUN** (Co. Goulburn). (A dry creek.)

Situate north-west of **Yarra Yarra**.

Originally part of the **Yarra Yarra** run as taken up by Rev. J. J. Therry, in 1836, it became a separate holding in the hands of John Kennedy before 1848. He sold to J. C. Whitty, in 1849, who remained in possession, representing the firm of Whitty and Gabbett as late as 1859. In 1860, W. F. Greene impounded stock from the run, but the transfer from Whitty to Mrs. Ann Greene was not gazetted till 1862. In the same year, Mrs. Greene sold to the Hon. John O'Shannassy. In 1865, McLaurin and Sons held it and were charged on 64,000 acres, supposed to carry 400 cattle, a rent of £40, and charges £120. In 1866, the rent was raised to £247, and the lease passed to the Trust and Agency Co., though MacLaurin and Sons continued to work it. They held it till late in the "seventies," and much selection taking place, the remainder of the lease passed to Mrs. Janet Ross, who held it in 1889.

**BLACK JACK, or MANJAR** (Co. Selwyn).

An area of rough country situate east of **Opossum Point**, and north of **Toolong**. A portion was at one time called **New Maragle, Block B**.

On the upper Greg Greg river. This was not formed till after 1853, and does not appear in the "Gazette" lists till 1878, when it was held by Macartney, Rolfe and Moorhouse. From them it passed to A. Bullman, who was in possession in 1889.

**BOWNA, or BOWNAYAN** (Co. Goulburn).

A small run on the Bowna creek, between **Thurgoona** and **Cumberoona**.

Formed by Matthew Smith very early, probably in 1837, he did not enjoy it long, as he died before 1840, and was buried near the present **Hawksview Bridge**. After his death, Thomas Shelley was in charge and lived

on what are now known as "Shelley's Flats." He was not related to the Shelley family so largely concerned in the settlement higher up the Murray. One of his step-daughters was Mrs. Andrew Hore, of Mugwee, who died in 1914, aged 87. Shelley was lessee in 1847, after which the run disappears from the official lists, though Townsend's Map, of 1852, shows "Shelley's Dairy Station" here, and also close to it "Calder's Sheep Station." In 1859, John Hore apparently bought it with **Cumberoona**, and it remains with his heirs to the present day. The late Sir William Lyne rented part of it when he first came to live in New South Wales from Tasmania.

**BRAE'S SPRINGS, BROWN'S SPRINGS, or PETRIE'S SPRINGS (Co. Hume).**

A small holding between **Gerogery** and **Burrumbuttock**.

Originally part of **Gerogery**, as taken up by C. and A. Huon, in 1839, it became a separate run when purchased in 1846, by Edward Brown, the father of Robert Brown, the first resident on the site of Albury.

In February, 1850, Brown sold to Keith Petrie, from whom it obtained the name of Petrie's Springs. Petrie held it till 1866, when he sold a portion, distinguished as **Strathdownie**, to James Mitchell, of **Tabletop**, and surrendered the balance for debt to T. H. Mate. The original name was then reverted to, and the area is given as 30,000 acres, and the rent was raised from £24 to £50. A few years later Mr. Mate again changed the name to "**Brae's Springs**," by which it is still known. After Mr. Mate's death, it was sold to Messrs Thornton and Co.

**BRINGEMBRONG (Co. Selwyn).** (A red kangaroo; or from "Bringan," a sister-in-law, or a red ant-hill).

An extensive and valuable holding on the Indi river at the junction with the Swampy river, south of **Greg Greg**.

Taken up in 1839, by William G. and Richard Guise, they placed cattle on it but took little care of the herd. Their overseer was Thomas Regan. In 1848, the lease was in the name of the executors of William Guise, and the area was given as 26,500 acres.

About 1856, the Hon. Matthew Hervey bought it, and finding that no stock had been branded for four or five years, engaged John Waite and his partner, Gammon, to



remove all stock, estimated to number 3,000, within three years. John Waite died, but the contract was completed by his brother, Thomas, and Gammon. In 1860, Hervey sold to G. Mair, of the firm of Mair and Garland, and they transferred to How, Walker and Sloane. In 1862, Hervey re-purchased it in conjunction with L. Cockburn. Mr. Thomas Elliott, the father of the Mr. Elliott who managed **Walla Walla** so many years, was in charge for the firm. In 1865, it was estimated to carry 1,000 cattle, and the rent was raised from £17/10/- to £56. Again in the following year it was raised to £72. The run then passed to Gray, and in 1869, was purchased by H. and C. Douglas. They took steps to secure the freehold of large portions, so that by 1871, the rent had fallen to £23. Messrs Douglas held it with **Khancoban, Adgintoothbung and Indi** runs, and sold the whole property to Thomas Mitchell in 1875. Much of it is still in the possession of his heirs.

#### **BROCKLESBY (Co. Hume).**

On the Murray, west of **Quat Quatta**, it covered the site of Corowa.

First formed by Charles Cropper, in 1839, he held it for about two years with a partner named Thompson. The station brand was "C&T," their initials. It is said that they abandoned it on account of drought, but if so it was not long vacant, for Thomas Chapman was in possession in 1841. Cropper's name is perpetuated in "Cropper's Lagoon," at South Corowa. Chapman sold in 1849, to Andrew Hume, who held it till his death, in 1857. He was the first to be buried in the Corowa cemetery, the run still including the site of the township. The native name of the site was "Dum-narran-gawah," and the town derived its name from the abundance of pine trees, called by the natives "Curra, or "Gurra," from the resin which they used to fix the handles to their weapons, and which was a product of these trees.

After Hume's death, the run was submitted to auction, and purchased by Aitken and Gray, and they shortly after admitted Col. Neill into partnership. It was then offered with 3,500 cattle, but does not appear to have been sold at that time. The area in 1866 was defined as 51,000 acres, estimated to carry 1,000 cattle, and the rent was fixed at £150. In the following year, Messrs Anderson and King purchased, and in 1874, Alexander Anderson was gazetted as lessee. Selection, in a few years, prac-

tically covered the whole area—a small portion remaining in Mr. Anderson's hands.

**BUCKAGINGA, BUCKINGINGAH, BUCKARGRINGLE**  
or **BUCKARINGAH** (Co. Hume). ("Bucka," mussel shells.)

North of **Round Hill**, east of Henty township.

The original owner is believed to have been Richard Burke, and both he and John Morrice are credited with holding the lease in 1848. This is probably owing to the common delay in gazetting transfers of runs in those early days. In 1858, J. and H. Osborne held it at a rent of £80. In 1866, they were assessed on 41,400 acres, estimated to carry 640 cattle. In 1874, J. and E. Donnelly, of **Borambola**, held it, and in 1875, sold to E. W. and A. A. Westby. It was then assessed at £70, being reckoned to carry 27,000 sheep. Much selection took place and Messrs. Westby held the remains of the lease in 1889, while it is now all farms.

**BULGANDRA, or BULGANDRIE** (Co. Hume).

On the Billabong, west of **Walbundrie**.

There is some doubt as to the original holder of this run. The official map of 1847, gives Charles Huon as lessee, but it is claimed that he was preceded by Thomas Buckland. By 1849, it had come into the possession of Robert Campbell, with Mr. Hunter in charge as manager. Campbell sold it with **Burrumbuttock**, to Mr. T. F. Gibson, in 1858. The area in 1866, is given as 32,000 acres, estimated to carry 8,000 sheep, at a rental of £60. Much alienation took place and practically all it now freehold, much of the area being still in the hands of Gibson and Co.

**BUNGOWANNAH, or BUNGOW-AN-HA.** (Cos. Hume and Goulburn.)

West of the present town of Albury.

Formed by John Dight in 1837, it included a large area extending back from the river beyond the present township of Jindera. The latter was known for many years as "Dight's Forest," on that account. In 1866, the area was still 44,800 acres, estimated to carry 960 cattle. John Dight died in 1867, aged 59. The ownership remained in the Dight family till 1881, when it was bought by John Grieve. About fifteen years later, he subdivided and sold by auction in suitable blocks for farms.



**BURRA, BURRA BURRA, BOORA, BORO, or SHAKING BOG** (Co. Selwyn). ("Boora," means "bye and bye.")

A large area east of Tumberunba. First taken up by Campbell, of Duntroon, near Queanbeyan, soon after 1840. He is said to have sold to William Bartholomew, but the "Gazette" of 1848, gives Wm. Bartholomew, late J. H. Jones, as lessee. The area then was 21,000 acres, supposed to carry 400 cattle. In 1866, Bartholomew held the same area, but the assessment was increased to 1,000 cattle. It was generally known for years as Bartholomew's, rather than by the run name. In 1871, Bear, Morgan and Morgan bought it, when the rent was but £12. In 1889, it was still held by T. H. Bear.

**BURRAJAA** (Co. Hume). (A swamp with young trees growing).

North of Corowa, between Quat Quatta and Sandy Ridges.

Originally part of Brocklesby, as taken up by Charles Cropper in 1839, it remained portion of that run till 1857, when Andrew Hume is gazetted as lessee of 17,920 acres here. In 1858, a tender by C. Cunningham of £30 for the lease was accepted. By 1864, it had passed to Sir J. F. Palmer, Sir Francis Murphy and the Hon. J. Henty. The latter was lessee in 1866, when the area was given as 32,750 acres, estimated to carry 1,000 cattle, and the rent was £61. In 1871, Gray and Neill paid a rent of £7/10/-.

**BURRUMBUTTOCK** (Co. Hume).

On the Urana road, 20 miles north of Albury.

As in the case of Bulgandra, there is a dispute as to the first owner of this run. Again C. and A. Huon are said to have held it by virtue of stocking in 1839, and Thomas Buckland is said to have settled here by 1840. In 1847 it was in the hands of Robert Campbell, with Hunter in charge. Campbell sold in 1858 to T. F. Gibson. In 1862, the area is given as 30,000 acres, estimated to carry 6,000 sheep, with a rent of £48. As with most of the runs of the district, much selection took place here, and by 1874, the rent had been reduced to £10. Since that time the whole has been made freehold and much of the area remains with the Gibson family.

**BURRUMBUTTOCK WEST (Co. Hume).**

West of **Burrumbuttock** and extending to **Howlong** run.

This is first mentioned as a separate holding in 1864, when Messrs Cunningham and Macredie are given as lessees. Before that date it had always been supposed to be part of the **Burrumbuttock** run, and it has been worked by Mr. T. F. Gibson as such.

The separate lease appears to have been obtained by Emanuel, of Tumut, in 1864. He soon sold to a Mr. Rankin, also of Tumut, and Messrs Cunningham and Macredie would appear to have been merely giving financial support to the owner. In 1866, the area was 30,000 acres, supposed to carry 6,000 sheep.

Rankin is said to have sold to a Mr. Thompson shortly after obtaining possession, and in 1871, he sold to Burrow Brothers, who built the homestead so long known as "The Olives." The next holder was a Mr. Cogle, from whom it passed to Mr. Mitchell, a Victorian solicitor, and after his death it was subdivided into farms and all sold to various settlers.

**CARABOBALA, or CURRABUBULA (Co. Goulburn). (A leather-head honey-sucker).**

On the Billabong, west of Holbrook.

Formed by Eliot Heriot in 1839 or 1840. He had previously been in charge of **Dora Dora**, for Redfern Bros., where he had considerable experience of the ways of the blacks.

In 1866, this run covered 41,000 acres, and the rent, which in 1854 was £20, and for some years stood at £80, was increased to £160. Within the next few years most of the area was selected and much still remains with the various members of his family.

**COLLENDINA (Co. Hume). (Meaning swirling water or junction of waters, it being just opposite the junction of the Ovens and the Murray).**

Formed in 1842, by Robert Brown, the first resident in Albury. It was then a very large holding, including the country from which **Sandy Ridges, Dry Forest, Bull Plain, Cow Pastures**, and it is said **Burrajaa** were afterwards formed.

David Reid is said to have made an attempt to secure this run as early as 1840, but failed owing to the pre-



vailing drought. Robert Brown held it till 1863, when it passed to Gayer and Crosse. Brown, in his early years amassed a large fortune, but later a series of bad seasons inflicted serious reverses on him, and when the station was sold he retired with his family to a portion which he had previously selected. He died in 1879, but his widow survived him till 1914.

The dates of the various subdivisions are doubtful, and will be given as far as possible under the various names. Gayer and Crosse, in 1871, paid a rent of £71, and in 1873, sold to John Hay. Much of it is now freehold, remaining with his descendants.

**COOKARDINIA**, or **COOKENDINA** (Co. Goulburn). (A gigantic kingfisher.)

Adjoining **Round Hill** and **Carabobala** on the north.

Formed in the early "forties" by John Post, in 1848 it stood in the names of Post and Kane, for John Post, senr. The area then was 14,250 acres. In 1850, John Post was gazetted lessee. In 1866, the same area was estimated to carry 660 cattle, and the rent was fixed at £28. In the following year this was increased to £50. Much alienation took place, and many farms were formed out of it, and in 1889, the remains of the lease was held by J. J. Post.

**COPPABELLA** (Co. Goulburn). (A crossing place.)

North of **Jingellic**, on the upper part of the **Jingellie** creek.

Formed by Henry Osborne, of Illawarra in 1838, it was purchased by James Robertson in 1839. From him it passed to his son W. J. Robinson, who, in 1866, was appraised a rent of £30, and on an area of 19,000 acres, estimated to carry 240 cattle. It was purchased in 1872 by J. C. Whitty, with 1662 cattle. In 1875, he paid a rent of £55, and in the following year sold it.

**COREEN** (Co. Hume). ("Coreen" or "Goreen," charcoal.)

North of **Cow Pastures**.

When first taken up by David Reid in 1841, drought compelled him to abandon it. It is said to have been again taken soon after by Wilson, but there is no certain record till 1850, when Huon and Drummond were in possession. They sold to John Gammell, of Wangaratta. In

1866, he was credited with holding 58,880 acres here, fit to carry 18,000 sheep, with a rent of £115. Gemmell sold to Ronald and McBain, who held it in 1871, and sold to the Hon. Henry Wilson, from whom it passed to Richmond.

#### COW PASTURES (Co. Hume).

Originally part of **Collendina**, it is not mentioned as a separate holding till 1861, when it was sold with **Bull Plain** and **Sanger's Mistake**, to J. and H. Osborne. In 1866 they held 13,500 acres, fit to carry 640 cattle or 3,000 sheep, at a rent of £51. In 1871, it was in the same hands.

#### CUMBEROONA (Co. Goulburn). (Crooked river.)

East of **Hawksview**, on the north bank of the Murray.

Formed by John Jobbins in 1836 or early in 1837, it then included **Fowler's Swamp**, and **Mugwee**.

Jobbins sold to Charles and Henry Fowler in 1841, and they in 1846 to Robert Calder. In 1848, the area is given as 21,812 acres. Townsend's Map, of 1852, shows "The Licking Holes" at what was already known as **Fowler's Swamp**. In 1859, the lease stood in the name of Henry Calder, and he sold to John Hore, with 1,500 cattle for £12,000. In 1866, Hore held the same area, then estimated to carry 1,000 cattle at a rent of £38. In the course of a few years, Hore converted it into freehold, and at his death in 1895, it passed to various relatives. For many years this run was famous for the magnificent herd of Durham cattle and stud horses bred there.

#### DOODLE COOMA, or DUDAL COMER (Co. Hume).

North of **Round Hill**, including the site of Henty township.

This run is first noted in February, 1850, when Thomas Keighran held the lease. He had then lived there some years, but the date of his formation of the run is uncertain. Thomas and John Kieghran appear to have been associated with the property from very early days. In 1865, the rent was increased from £10 to £23, and in the following year, the area is given as 16,000 acres, fit to carry 640 cattle, the rent also being increased to £62/10/-. Soon after, John Cox, of Mangoplah became interested, but retransferred to Thomas Keighran in 1871. Much reduced by closer settlement and conditional purchase, a considerable area still remains with his descendants.



**DORA DORA, or DAARA DAARA (Co. Goulburn).**

East of **Wagra** now **Wymah**.

First formed by Luke Redhall for Redhall Brothers, in 1837, Eliot Heriot later the owner of **Carabobala**, was in charge for the first year or two. While he was there the blacks were very hostile, and one determined attack on the homestead was only defeated with great difficulty, though the whites had full warning from the head of the tribe. Redhall Bros. soon sold to Henry Jeffries, as representing Jeffries Bros., and they sold to James Wilson before 1848. The "Gazette" of that year gives his name as lessee "late Hy. Jeffries." In 1860, Ogle James Moore purchased the run though the lease remained in Wilson's name some years later. The area in 1866 was 65,000 acres, and the rent £103. Before 1871, the lease was transferred to Ronald and McBain, though Moore was still living there. Moore's interest appears to have lapsed in 1869, for from that year till 1873, J. Vautier was in possession and managed the property till it was sold to H. K. Aird late in the year. In 1875, Aird sold to Tinker and Mercer, the latter being replaced in the firm in the following year by Mr. Davey. In 1884, they transferred to J. F. Hayes, from whom it passed to Messrs Lamb and Sons.

**FALLS (Co. Goulburn).**

On the upper course of the **Little Billabong**.

First appears as a separate holding in 1871, when Bootes and Williams held it at a rent of £26. In 1875, Williams was lessee, and sold to Scrivenor in 1882. In 1889, the remainder stood in the name of James MacLaurin.

**FOUR MILE (Co. Goulburn).**

On a branch of the **Little Billabong**, north of **Yarra Yarra**.

Originally probably included in the **Yarra Yarra** run, Townsend's Map, of 1850, shows J. C. Whitty holding 19,000 acres here. He also shows Dean's station on the same creek. By 1866, a reduction of area had taken place as William Rial is credited with holding only 12,000 acres with a capacity for carrying 400 cattle, at a rent of £22/10/-. In 1871, George Day paid the same rent, but in 1875, it had reverted to Rial at an increased rent of

£26. George Day would seem to have been still interested in it as he held the lease in 1889.

GEROGERY (Co. Goulburn). (A magpie lark.)

West of **Tabletop**.

Formed by Aimee Huon in 1839, his Brother Charles soon joined him there. In 1847, A. A. Huon is gazetted as holding 43,720 acres, which probably included the area of **Brown's Springs**, then only about being sold to Edward Brown by Huon. In 1851, it was leased by Dr. J. J. Keatinge, of Albury, from Huon Bros, but soon reverted to them. In 1866, they were assessed a rent of £65, on 30,000 acres, supposed to carry 6,000 sheep. In 1869, they sold to Samuel Watson. Much of the run was made freehold and by 1875 the rent was reduced to £15. Watson held it till his death, when it passed to his sons, and later was practically converted into farms.

GLENKEN (Co. Selwyn). See **Ournie**.

GLENROY (Co. Selwyn).

On the Boggy Creek, west of **Tumberumba**.

Formed by William Guise, of **Cunningdroo**, in 1836, or 1837, as a heifer run, the next holder was D. R. Gale. Townsend's Map, of 1848, gives the original name of this run as "**Ondemaline**." Gale was succeeded by John McAuliffe and Patrick Craven (better known as "Toko Pat"). In 1866, they were assessed on 20,000 acres estimated to carry 3,000 sheep, and the rent of £50 was increased to £90. A few years later they dissolved partnership and McAuliffe retained half under the name of **Glenroy**, while Craven took the remainder, giving it the name of **Rosewood**. **Glenroy** passed to Menzies, followed by Wolseley, and then Rial, who changed the name to Wolseley Park.

GOOMBARGONA (Co. Hume). (Native dog excreta on a rock.)

North of **Howlong** and west of **Walbundrie**.

The history of this run, prior to 1848, is very uncertain. In that year, it was held by J. S. Patterson. Not long after he sold to John Sanger, of **Wangamong**, who in 1858, sold to Dunsford and Bear. In 1859, they sold to Vaughan and Wild, and in 1860, they transferred to Walker and Sloane and Co. The composition of the firm



was shortly after changed to How, Walker and Sloane, who then sold to Ruffy and Sawtell. In 1865, William Hamilton was lessee at a rent of £60, raised in the following year to £166. The area was 34,320 acres, estimated to carry 640 cattle. In 1872, the rent was reduced to £132, and it must have been purchased by Michael Dawson, whose executors sold it in 1875, with **Kentucky**, to L. Levin. It then passed to Arthur Balme, who a few years later went into partnership with William Kiddle, of **Walbundrie**, and the two properties were worked as one. Within a few years the whole area was subdivided into farms.

**GREG GREG, GRIK GRIK, or COROC COROC (Frogs).**  
(Co. Selwyn).

On the right bank of the Murray between **Welaregang** and **Bringembrong**.

This station was not formed till about 1850, when W. and M. Hervey held 13,000 acres here. Old maps show Hervey's head station here. In 1858, W. Hervey sold to John Pierce, previously an employee on **Mungabareena**. In 1865, he held 17,000 acres supposed to carry 600 cattle at a rent of £40. By 1875, much alienation had taken place and the rent was reduced to £10. Portion No. 1 of the parish of Greg Greg, taken up by Reuben Sheather, was the first selection on that part of the Upper Murray. Much of the original run remains with Pierce's descendants as freehold.

**HAWKSVIEW.** See **Mungabareena**.

**HILLSIDE** (Co. Goulburn).

North of **Little Billabong** run, on a branch of that creek.

Originally part of **Kyeamba** run, it is said to have been first taken by a man named Craine. Before 1848, it had reverted to the holders of Kyeamba, Wm. Walker and Co. The lease was in the name of Thomas Walker, and remained with him till 1871. The rent then was £12/10/-, when Walker sold to Buchanan and Mort, from whom it passed to Manning. He sold in 1882, to Scrivenor, and in 1889, Mrs. Janet Ross was given as the owner.

Townsend's Map, of 1852, shows "Massey's Inn" here on a reserve.

**HOWLONG, OOLONG, or OBOLONG** (Co. Hume). (A resort of native companions.)

On the Murray, 20 miles west of Albury.

First mentioned in Sir Thomas Mitchell's account of his exploration journey of 1836. He crossed the Murray here and mentions having noticed the marks of "Gig wheels" on the northern bank of the river, but no sign of settlement. The next mention is by John Hepburn, in his account of the first "overlanding party's" trip to Melbourne. They crossed here in December, 1836, following Mitchell's tracks. Joseph Hawdon, one of the party, must have been favourably impressed with the value of the country in this part, for before the end of the year 1837, his brother, John Hawdon, had formed the station. He put Weatherall in charge. Joseph Hawdon was contractor for the first overland mail between Melbourne and Sydney, and in his diary of the first trip with the postboy, twice mentions 'my station' on the Hume as if he owned it, but it has been shown clearly that though he made use of it to spell horses and cattle it belonged solely to his brother John. The latter sold to Matthew Pearce before 1840, who held it till 1866, when he was assessed on 38,400 acres, estimated to carry 6,000 sheep, and his rent increased from £40 to £117. Pearce soon after sold to Hamilton Dight, and in 1869, the latter sold to S. S. Bowler. We may presume that Bowler fell on troublous times for in 1871, the lease was forfeited for non-payment of rent, and sold by the Government to Swift, of Tumut. By some arrangement Bowler recovered possession in a few days, and in the following December offered the lease with 4,000 acres of freehold, and 1,000 cattle by auction with a reserve of £13,700. The reserve not being reached, Mr. Walker was placed in charge, and in June, 1870, the property was sold to Mr. Alexander MacVean, who subdivided the holding into farms.

**INDI** (Co. Selwyn). (A water plant.)

On the right bank of the Indi river, south of **Bringembrong**.

It has been claimed that this run was first formed by a man named Palmer, very early. The first definite record however is that Messrs W. and M. Hervey held it in 1839. They planted the willows standing about the site of the old homestead. The next holders were Messrs



Strachan and Gabbett, who were lessees in 1848. They sold to Hay and Chalmers in 1855, and Messrs Scammell appeared to have lived here two or three years before removing to **Youngal**. In 1858, it was purchased by Mrs. Gray, who was represented by her son, Basil Gray. In 1866, the area is given as 24,000 acres, fit to carry 800 cattle and the rent was reduced from £50 to £27. In 1869, Mrs. Gray sold to Menzies, Nicoll and Douglas, who were gazetted lessees as late as 1874. Messrs H. and C. Douglas succeeded, and in 1876 sold to Thomas Mitchell, with **Bringembrong**, and much still remains with his descendants.

INDI UPPER. See **Upper Indi**.

JERRA JERRA (Co. Goulburn). (A plover).

North of **Cookardinia**, on the Jerra Jerra creek.

A small run which is noted in the "Gazette" of 1848 as vacant. Shortly after, Alexander Bell was assessed on 7,026 acres, and early in the "fifties," transferred to Osborne and Burns. In 1865, the lease stood in the names of Burns Bros. at a rent of £51/10/-. The area was 10,000 acres, estimated to carry 640 cattle. In 1873, Burns Bros. transferred to Henry Burns, and it has all been gradually converted into farms.

JINGELLIC, JINGELLE, JINGALLICK, JINGELLA, or JINGELLIC NORTH (Co. Goulburn). At the mouth of the Jingellie Creek.

First formed by Terence Aubrey Murray, from Taradale, near Lake George, it is said to have been at one time held in conjunction with the run of the same name on the opposite bank of the Murray. It is shown on Wyld's Map of 1840, as "Murray's Station." Murray held it some years when it passed to Reid (better known as "Knowledgable Reid") and Townsend shows Reid's Head station here in 1852. He also marks the then holder as A. Campbell, late Joseph Hawdon. How long Campbell held it is uncertain, but in 1857, Elmslie and Strachan were in possession, and in the following year the lease was held by R. S. Gabbett. In 1860 Smithwick Bros. occupied it but apparently only temporarily, as in the following year Gabbett was again in possession. In 1866 the area is given as 12,000 acres, carrying 450 cattle at a rent of £80. In 1874, Strachan and Gabbett

sold to the Mount Battery Company, represented by Hastings Cunningham and Co. As the run then carried 2,900 cattle and 100 horses, we may presume that much of the stock was brought on the place with a view of selling, especially as we find the rent reduced in 1875 to £33. Later, the run changed hands frequently: Martin and Johnson were in possession in 1884, and were followed by the Australian Loan, Mortgage and Finance Co. Next by McMicking, of Mannus, and later by Robertson and Co., Langlands, and MacFarlane, in succession.

#### KENTUCKY (Co. Hume).

Also known as "**Oil Tree Station.**"

Originally taken up by Charles Huon very early, it is believed that he sold it to Paul Jones, who gave it its present name. In 1859, it was held by Loring, while in 1865, Sloane, Spiro and Jeffery are credited with paying a rent of £55 for a lease of 16,000 acres, estimated to carry 4,000 sheep here. In 1871 Cunningham and Macready paid a rent of £45, probably as being financially interested, the property about this time passing through the hands of L. Levin to John Gray. A large portion was selected and secured and still remains with Gray.

#### KHANCOBAN, or SWAMPY PLAIN (Co. Selwyn).

South-east of **Bringembrong**, on the Swampy river.

Believed to have been first formed by William Guise in 1838, or 1839, with **Bringembrong**, it very soon passed into the possession of John Hay, who from his ownership of this run became known as "Swampy Hay," to distinguish him from his namesake, the owner of **Welaregang**, for whom he managed that run, though in no way related to him. In 1848, the lease was held by Grant and Trevallyn, and Townsend's Map, published shortly after, shows it as in the name of M. Hervey, late Grant and Trevallyn. In 1860, Hervey transferred to George Mair, of Mair and Garland, and he to How, Walker and Co., and in 1866, they were assessed on 40,320 acres, estimated to carry 1,000 cattle, at a rent of £90. William Gray appears to have been interested in the lease about this time but the date is uncertain. An old map shows McKenny's head station here, and also that a Richard Cooper lived here in 1855, but the writer has been unable to obtain any information about either of them.



In 1869, Menzies, Nicoll and Douglas purchased, and later it passed to H. and C. Douglas, who in 1876, sold to Thomas Mitchell, and a large portion is still in the possession of his descendants.

#### **KHANCOBAN SOUTH (Co. Selwyn).**

A stretch of rough country, south of the last.

Originally supposed to be part of **Khancoban**, it appears not to have been held continuously by anyone. In 1868, P. C. Stewart held 16,000 acres at a rent of £27. In 1871, J. Robertson paid a rent of £25 for it. The "Gazette" of 1875, gives a transfer from W. B. Brown to H. L. Prentice, while the same year Messrs. H. and C. Douglas are said to have transferred to W. H. and E. J. Scammell. This latter probably refers to adjoining country with ill-defined boundaries. In 1876, again the "Gazette" shows H. L. Prentice transferring to W. J. M. Stuckey. In 1881 it was in the hands of the Bank of New South Wales.

#### **KIRNDEEN (Co. Goulburn).**

West of **Round Hill**.

This is the western portion of the Round Hill run, cut off from it by the Great Southern Railway. It was sold soon after the building of the line to the Hon. Francis Ormond. He transferred to Lachlan McBean, who presented it to his nephew, and the latter subdivided it into farms.

#### **LITTLE BILLABONG (Co. Goulburn).**

East of Holbrook, at the head of the Little Billabong.

Originally supposed to be included in the **Yarra Yarra** run, it is first mentioned in Townsend's Map, of 1852, but he marks no owner. In 1857, it was held by John Kennedy, and by 1861, had passed to William Williams, with D. P. Keogh associated. In 1862, Williams leased to John Hore and George Day, and in the following year it is advertised as liable to forfeiture for non-payment of rent. In 1865, the area is given as 17,280 acres, to carry 4,000 sheep at a rent of £40. Wm. Rial, who died in 1867 appears to have been interested in the property. Hore and Day held it till 1872, when owing to selection, the area had been greatly reduced, and the rent also, to £18. In 1872, Williams again came into possession, and after some years, sold to James MacLaurin, who held it in 1889.

**MAHONGA FOREST (Co. Hums).**

North and west of **Bulgandra**, on the Billabong.

Believed to have been first taken up by C. and A. Huon in the early "forties," Hector Norman Simpson, in 1846, endeavoured to make a settlement here, but owing to the difficulty of storing water, he in a few months abandoned it again to Huon. In 1848, the lease was in the names of A. A. and Chas. Huon. The next owner appears to have been John R. Ray, from whom it passed in 1859 to Robert Rand. In 1866, he was assessed on 32,000 acres, estimated to carry 1,000 cattle, and the rent raised from £50 to £318. Rand died in 1894, and much of it is still possessed by his heirs.

**MAHONGA FOREST (C. Hume).**

A southern extension of the **Mahonga** run, south of the Billabong.

**MAHONGA FOREST, SOUTH (Co. Hume).**

South of the last, it was worked as an outstation. In 1871, the rent was fixed at £48. Robert Rand holding it with **Mahonga**.

**MANJAR (Co. Selwyn).** See **Black Jack**. ("Mungar," a codfish.)

**MANNUS, or MANES (Co. Selwyn).** (A mustering ground.)

On Mannus Creek, north of **Welaregang**.

There is much confusion regarding this run, as the boundaries seem to have varied at times with change of lessees. There is no doubt that W. A. Brodribb formed it in 1838, (though it is claimed that Evan R. Evans preceded him), and in 1839 sold it, probably to John Stewart, a well-known veterinary surgeon of the time. He apparently sold to Massey, of Gundaroo, who was followed by Terence Aubrey Murray, Speaker of the Assembly. He is said to have sold to Joseph Hawdon. The Desaillys are also credited with holding it as summer country for a few years in "the fifties."

Sydney G. Watson, the well-known owner of **Walwa**, lived on what is known as "Watson's Meadows" on the eastern bank of the creek on this run, very early. He married one of the Misses Robinson, of **Coppabella**, and his eldest daughter was born there in 1842. Again a map of 1852 shows Reid's Cattle Station on the opposite



side of the creek to the homestead. Townsend's Map, of 1852, gives Henry Burehett, late Joseph Hawdon as holding 39,000 acres here, while the "Gazette" of that year credits Hay and Chalmers with the ownership. In 1854, it was estimated to carry 1,120 cattle at a rent of £17/10/-. An old resident states that his father was once offered the whole property with the straggling cattle on it for £60. In 1860, the "Gazette" gives R. S. Gabbett, as lessee, and in 1863, it was advertised as liable to forfeiture for non-payment of rent.

R. J. McMicking secured the run at this time, and in 1866 was assessed on 30,000 acres estimated to carry 1,120 cattle, at a rent of £78. He also held the adjoining **Mundaroo** run. Much of the area was later made freehold and remains with the family.

#### MANNUS CREEK. (Co. Selwyn).

On the head waters of Mannus Creek.

Probably first occupied by William Guise, very early, his name is perpetuated there by "Guise's Waterhole." It has been at times part of **Mannus** run. Townsend's Map, of 1852, gives Craven and McAuliffe as holders, but mentions no area. S. G. Watson appears to have been in possession very early, but the first "Gazette" notice of it as a separate holding is in 1860, when the lease was in his name. In 1865, Robert Downey paid a rent of £30 for 16,000 acres, carrying 640 cattle. In 1871, the rent had been reduced to £15 owing to selection, and from that time it disappears from the lists of leases.

#### MARACKET (Co. Goulburn).

On the Murray between **Talmalmo** and **Jingellic**.

This small run was formed by Summers, early in the "forties," and passed soon after to Robt. J. Mason, of **Bigarea**. He held it till 1855, at a rent of £10, when he sold to John Strachan. In 1863, it was advertised as liable to forfeiture, but Strachan still held it in 1866, when he was assessed a rent of £10 on 4464 acres, carrying 300 cattle. From him it passed to his widow, and is still held by his sons.

#### MARAGLE, or MERAGLE (Co Selwyn).

North-east of **Tooma** run.

Taken up by Dr. Thomas Bell in 1839, the area of the holding appears to have changed from time to time, according as it was worked with adjoining blocks. Bell

sold early to Mair and Garland, represented by James Garland. It was then an outstation of **Tooma**. In 1848, they held 49,000 acres here. It passed from them to R. Napier, who in 1862, transferred to Hay and Dight, probably as mortgagees.

In 1866, Hay and Dight were assessed a rent of £39 and 49,640 acres, carrying 640 cattle. They then sold to Greene and Chomley, but the transfer was not gazetted till 1871. In 1875, John Cox is given as lessee, and the run was sold to Macartney and Kinleside.

#### MERAGLE NEW (Co. Selwyn).

East of **Meragle**.

A block of rough country on the western slope of Kosciusko. The only gazetted holder of a lease here is Richard Blackwood in 1873.

#### MARAGLE NEW BLOCK B (Co. Selwyn).

South and east of the last. At times apparently part of **Manjar**. Merely summer country, the only gazetted lease is to Lachlan McBean, in 1879.

#### MOREBRINGER (Co. Hume).

West of **Bungowannah**.

Taken by William Lester, in 1840, he held it till his death in 1858. In 1859, his executors paid a rent of £15/10/-. In 1866 this was raised to £50, as the area, 15,000 acres, was supposed to be fit to carry 5,000 sheep. The lease stood in Lester's name, while his widow occupied it till her death in 1872. It was then sold to S. De Mamiel, whose representatives still own much of it as freehold.

#### MOUNTAIN CREEK (Co. Goulburn).

East of **Mullengandra**.

Originally part of the **Ten Mile Creek** run as formed by John Purtell in 1837, he used it as an outstation. In 1847, Carmody and Co., are given as the owners, while in 1848, Purtell and Carmody were lessees of 29,744 acres here. Shortly after J. Morrice, the owner of **Mullengandra** was in possession. In 1857, Mr. J. A. Walker was settled there, and in 1859 a preemptive right was confirmed to Purtell and Dalton on this run. In 1866, the latter were assessed a rent of £80, on 29,744 acres, supposed to carry 1,280 cattle. Before 1869, E. M. Bond purchased, and much of the area became freehold. In 1882, Messrs



Wood and Scrivenor rented it and carried it on till C. L. Griffith bought it. He subdivided it into farms in 1909.

**MOUNTAIN CREEK No. 2 (Co. Goulburn).**

This is a second holding on the Mountain Creek, and possibly the country held by John Morrice in connection with **Mullengandera**, early in the "fifties." In 1865, the area is given as 13,131 acres, with a rent of £10. Morrice held it till his death in 1874, when it was sold with the **Mullengandra** run.

**MUGWEE, MUGINUGWEE, MUG-MUG-WUG, or MUG-WAH (Co Goulburn).**

The name is said to refer to the noise made by bull frogs.

Adjoining **Wagra**, on the west, it was originally part of **Cumberoona**, it was formed by Andrew Hore, about 1845. In 1860, the rent was £24 on 3,837 acres, estimated to carry 300 cattle. By 1871, the rent had been reduced to £10. Hore died in 1890. Most of it is in the hands of his descendants as freehold.

**MULLENGANDRA, MULLYANJANDERA, or MUL-YAN-YANDERA (Co. Goulburn).** (The home of the eagle.)

North of **Cumberoona**, and east of **Tabletop**.

Taken up by A. Morrice (who married a Miss Osborne) and H. and J. Osborne, in 1839, the lease was in the name of John Morrice in 1859. In 1866, he was assessed on 28,526 acres, estimated to carry 5,000 sheep. John Morrice held it till his death in 1874, by which time much had become freehold. The remainder was then subdivided and sold, mostly to local residents.

**MUNDAROO, or MINDAROO (Co. Selwyn).** (A place of thunder). North of **Ournie**.

Taken up by William Love in 1839, or 1840, it passed before 1848 to Benjamin Bell. In 1866, Bell and Hay were assessed a rent of £28 on 20,000 acres, estimated to carry 5,000 sheep. In 1875, the Mount Battery Company had replaced Hay, but in the following year, Bell alone held the lease. In 1886, he sold to Martin and Johnson, who held it in 1889. Love's Creek preserves the name of the first owner.

**MUNDAROO WEST (Co. Selwyn).**

Adjoining **Mundaroo** on the west.

This was originally considered part of **Mundaroo**. It was held as a separate property for some time by R. S. Gabbett, and old maps show his head station here. After 1866, it appears to have merged in the **Mundaroo** holding, and was held by Benjamin Bell with it.

**MUNGABAREENA, THURGOONA, or HAWKSVIEW (Co. Goulburn).**

From "mun," something abnormally large, "gabba," very tall talk, and "reena," favourable surroundings. "**Thurgoona**" means a rocky place.

It was first formed by William Wyse for Chas H. Ebdon, near the end of 1835. The boundary of the run commenced on the north bank of the Murray, at the mouth of the Bungambrewatah Creek. It extended thence nearly north-westerly to "The Pinnacle," east of the township of Jindera. Thence roughly east, between "Budginigi" and "Maryvale," to the northern end of Shelley's or Hawksview Range, then south-easterly by the top of that range, past "Shelley's Flat and Smith's Selection" to the top of the hill, due north of Hawksview House. There it turned east to the bank of the river, which it followed to the point of commencement. It thus included the site of Albury. This was the first station formed on the Murray proper. The first homestead was built near the present Albury Waterworks, but it was superseded in 1839 by a second about three miles higher up the stream, where a ridge of rocks crossed the river, to which the natives applied the name "Thurgoona." Then about 1852, the present House at Hawksview was built.

Early in 1837, Chas. Huon purchased the run from C. H. Ebdon, and presented it to his widowed sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Mitchell. Her eldest son, Thomas, took charge and stocked it with cattle. In 1851, the area is given as 28,214 acres. The management was then taken by another son, Mr. J. F. H. Mitchell, still living at Ravenswood, in Victoria (1919). By 1874, most of it had been converted into freehold, and the estate was then sold to Elms and Scott. In 1877, it again changed hands, being purchased by Mackellar and Burnett. Burnett soon retired and Mackellar held it till 1888, when it passed to



King. Later, King sold to Hogan Bros., and from them it passed to the present holder.

**MUNIMBLA** (Co. Hume).

North of Pincey Range run, and probably including the southern portion of Wallandool run, this run is shown on some old maps. Bailliere says that in 1866, Power and Davenport held 32,000 acres at a rent of £31, and in 1871, Ronald and McBain, pastoral financiers were credited with paying a rent of £40.

**NEURENMERENMANG** (Co. Selwyn).

On the north slope of Kosciusko.

Taken up by G. Sparkes after 1850, it is seldom mentioned in official lists. In 1861, gazetted forfeited for non-payment of rent by James Sparkes. In 1882, it was held by the Australian Mortgage, Land and Finance Co. H. Ricketson was in possession in 1889. It is very rough and almost entirely summer country.

**OURNIE**, or **OURANEE** (Co. Selwyn). (From "Whorna-ye," a small black wasp; or "Oornee," a platypus.)

Also at one time known as **Glenken**.

On the Murray, between **Jingellie** and **Welaregang**.

It has been claimed that this run was first formed by the father of the late Granville R. M. Collins, of **Kimo**, etc. It is certain that in 1841, it was occupied by John Hay ("Swampy Hay") who was then managing **Welaregang** and was about to marry Miss Robinson of **Coppabella**. It is probable that he was preceded by Charles Scott, as Townsend in his map of 1848, gives the lessee as John Hay, late Charles Scott. The area then was 30,360 acres. After 1852, Shelley Bros. held it and sold it in 1858, to Elmslie and Strachan, with 1,700 cattle, for £12,000. In 1875, Alfred Chenery purchased it with 3,000 cattle and 200 horses, and sold in 1881, to Cobb and Co., the well-known coach proprietors. They in turn sold to J. and P. J. McMeekin.

**OPOSSUM POINT**, or **YELLOW BOY RUN** (Co. Selwyn).

On the south-east of **Tooma**.

Taken up by Thomas Richards in 1840 or 1841, Richards died before 1848, when the lease was held in the names of his executors. His widow then married James

Donahoo, who died by accident and was survived by his widow till about 1885. In 1866, Mary Richards was assessed a rent of £12/10/- on 500 cattle, also in 1871. She left the property to her children, and as late as 1889, the lease was still in her name. Her eldest son was one of the first children born on the Upper Murray, having arrived as early as 1842.

**PETRIE'S SPRINGS.** See **Brae's Springs.**

**PINEY RANGE** (Co. Hume).

On the Billabong, east of **Walbundrie.**

Originally part of the holding of C. and A. A. Huon, it was given by them about 1847 to a stockman named John Simmonds. Simmonds afterwards employed a man named Murphy, and sent him to pay the rent when due. Hence the lease came to stand in the two names of Simmonds and Murphy. In 1860, Rudd and Jackson held a lease here at a rent of £62, but Simmonds and Murphy were also given as lessees. In 1866, they were assessed a rent of £34 on 12,800 acres, carrying 3,000 sheep. Apparently some subdivision had taken place, for in 1871, Murphy was associated with Mr. Kidston, the then holder of **Walbundrie**, while Rudd and Jackson still held a small lease of 1869 acres, estimated to carry 245 cattle at a rent of £32. In 1876, Murphy sold to Riddle, whose son still owns the property.

**QUAT QUATTA, or QUART QUARTTA** (Co. Hume).

(From the cry of a frog; J. J. Bayliss says, "plenty fish.")

West of Howlong.

David Reid attempted to secure this run in 1840, but was compelled to abandon his venture on account of the scarcity of water. In 1841, it was retaken by Thomas Hyland, better known as "Hyland of Boro." It passed to Matthew Hyland in 1847, and he sold it in 1858 to Messrs Greene. In the following year Messrs George and James Day, with D. P. Keogh, bought it. It is doubtful if Keogh was really a partner, as in 1860, he is gazetted as in charge for Hugh Glass. At this time Glass and Keogh laid claim to much of the adjoining runs, **Kentucky, Goombargona** and **Howlong**, owing to the want of defined boundaries. After considerable litigation, the matter was submitted to the Arbitration of David Reid and J. Os-



borne, with William Huon as umpire. By them the boundaries were fixed, and the previous faulty surveys rectified.

In 1865, Donald Ferguson is gazetted as lessee, at a rent of £50. In 1866, he was assessed a rent of £116 on 51,200 acres, supposed to carry 4,000 sheep. In 1870, the rent was the same, and it is announced that Samuel Bowler had forfeited the lease by non-payment of rent. The Government sold to Swift, of Tumut, and in July, Whitehead and Fyfe issued impounding notices. In August, H. Gibbs also, and in December, Arthur Gibbs. In this year also, McPhail, in his "Squatting Directory," gives John Ettershank as lessee, but this was probably as mortgagee.

In 1875, Mrs. Gibbs transferred the back station to the Bank of New South Wales for financial reasons, and soon after the property was purchased by the Hon. J. A. Wallace, who held it many years.

ROUND HILL (Cos. Hume and Goulburn). (Native name "Goba gamba.")

North of **Gerogery**.

The first owner of this run is doubtful. Crichton and Hill are credited with forming it very early, and they held it in 1847. In 1857, Robert and James Crichton are given as lessees, and John Sherwin must also have been interested, as in 1860, a transfer of the lease from him to the Crichtons is registered. At the same time we find notice of the sale to Messrs. Henty, and the lease passed to Henty and Neill. In 1865, they were assessed on 45,000 acres, estimated to carry 8,000 sheep, a rent of £100. In 1866, the rent was increased to £218. Extensive selection and conversion into freehold followed, and when in 1875, Messrs Henty and Neill transferred to the Hon. James Balfour, the rent was only £15. The firm soon appears as Henty and Balfour, and in 1882, the western portion of the run was sold to the Hon. Francis Ormond, and by him named **Kirndeen**. The firm of Henty and Balfour then became Balfour and Sons, and the property is still mostly in the possession of the sons.

SHAKING BOG (Co. Selwyn).

But few references to this run have been found. It appears to have been in the Tumberumba district, and Bailliere gives R. Lowther and A. Griffiths as holding

8,400 acres, estimated to carry 6,000 sheep, at a rent of £10, in 1866. In 1871, Bear, Morgan and Morgan paid £12 rent. In May, 1872, Gayer and Crosse sold it to J. A. Lewis.

**SHELLEY'S FLAT** (Co. Goulburn). See also **Bowna** run.

A portion of the **Bowna** run, on the eastern boundary of **Hawksview**.

At the mouth of the Bowna creek. So named after Thomas Shelley, who was in charge about 1840. He was no relation to the Shelleys of the upper river runs. He died in 1850. In later years, most of the holding was selected by H. C. R. Smith, and was eventually merged in the **Hawksview** run.

**SPRINGS** (Co. Selwyn).

At the extreme southern point of the county, on the head waters of the Indi river.

An area of rough country first taken up by John Pendergast, after 1850, which he sold to Thompson about 1860. It does not appear again in the "Gazette" list till 1881, when it was held by Peter Grant. He was followed by J. J. Whakley, who held it in 1889.

**TABLE TOP, or BATTERY MOUNT.** (Co. Goulburn).

The native name was Mullyan-argina, or mullyan-yar-gunyah, meaning the home or breeding place of eagles.

Formed by Dutton in 1836, no less than 1,000 cattle were placed on it. In May, 1837, Darlot was in charge, and there were two outstations, and the run was divided into breeding, bullock, and heifer runs. Dutton soon after abandoned it, and moved his stock across the Goulburn river. Hobbie Elliott then took possession, and built a homestead about a quarter of a mile above, and on the opposite side of the creek to the present house. Before 1840, it had passed to Thomas Vicars Foote, and Patterson. The former resided there and was known to the natives as "mundowie" that being their word for a foot. Old maps show Foote's sheep station near the head of the creek. Before 1848, Foote sold to Villeneuve Smith, who held 44,219 acres. In 1851, the lease was purchased by Mrs. Elizabeth Mitchell, though the transfer was not gazetted till 1860, when it is recorded that H. and W. Smith (the heirs of Villeneuve Smith) sold to J. F. H. Mitchell,



and he transferred to his brother James. In 1854, Peter Stuckey rented it from Mrs. Mitchell, and in 1857-8, George and James Day did the same. In 1859, James Mitchell took possession on his marriage and resided there till his death in 1914, aged 79. Much of the western portion was sold in farms in that year.

#### TALMALMO, or TALLAMORE (Co. Goulburn).

##### East of **Dora Dora**.

Taken up by Donald McLeod, who owned **Burrowye**, (south of the river) from 1838 to 1844, for an assigned servant named Abraham Miller, from whom the locally renowned "Abraham's Bosom" obtained its name. It passed, before 1848, to John White, junr., who held 9,800 acres. Townsend's Map, of 1848, also shows here "Riddell's Old Station," from which it would appear that Riddell had occupied it between Miller and White. George Moles was the next owner, and died intestate in 1860. The Curator sold the stock to Huon and Chapman, and the run to George and James Day. In 1865, they were assessed a rent of £25 on 320 cattle, on 3,960 acres. In 1866, the rent was reduced to £15, and the lease then sold to Smithwick, while the cattle on it passed to Kidd and Brickell, the Albury storekeepers. S. G. Watson was interested in this sale as mortgagee. The property is now all freehold and still in the hands of the Smithwicks.

#### TEN MILE CREEK (Co. Goulburn).

##### West of **Yarra Yarra**.

The name was given because when Purtell took it up in 1837, he fixed his headquarters ten miles from the **Yarra** stockyard. The area John Purtell claimed is not known, but it certainly covered what were afterwards called Nos. 1 and 2 Blocks, and also the West Block, with probably some or all of **Mountain Creek**. By 1839 the run had been subdivided as mentioned, and Purtell appears to have been restricted to the West Block. T. H. Bardwell held the other two.

TEN MILE CREEK No. 1. See **Annandale**.

TEN MILE CREEK No. 2. See **Annandale**.

#### TEN MILE CREEK WEST (Co. Goulburn).

The western portion of the original **Ten Mile Creek** run.

Taken up by John Purtell, in 1837, its boundaries are doubtful. It appears to have included much of the **Mountain Creek** country, and what is now **Benambra**. In 1848, Purtell and Carmody were assessed on 11,411 acres, and soon after we find Michael and Patrick Purtell associated with their father. About 1860, Purtell took Dalton into partnership, and they were assessed in 1866, on an area of 20,054 acres, a rent of £65, reduced on appeal to £32/10/-. It was then estimated to carry 640 cattle. In 1871, it was again in Purtell's name, and by 1875, so much selection had taken place that the rent was only £10. The whole area later became freehold.

**TOM GROGGIN**, or **GROGGAN** (Co. Selwyn). (From "ton-a-roggin," a water-spider.)

Near the head of the Murray, opposite a run of similar name on the Victorian side of the river. It is almost inaccessible from the New South Wales side of the stream and was often utilised by the holders of the Victorian run. There is no record of its being occupied till long after 1850, but John Barry is said to have occupied it in 1855. It is believed to have passed before 1860 to Thompson, but Barry held it in 1868, at a rent of £2/10/-, and charges £20. It remained with him in 1871. The next owners were John Pierce the elder, and John Pierce the younger, of **Greg Greg**, who held it before 1880, and till after 1889.

**TOOLONG** (Co. Selwyn). (A plain with water.)

A small run, east of **Bringembrong**.

It was formed after 1850, but almost solely used as summer country. The first lessee recorded is Anthony Denny, who in 1868, paid a rent of £3, with charges £20. In 1871, F. Y. Wolseley paid a rent of £11, and in 1873, it is advertised for sale with **Tom Groggin**, but the advertisement gives no clue to the owner.

In 1889, Donelly Bros. were in possession.

**TOOMA**, **TUMA**, or **TOOMAH** (Co. Selwyn). ("Toomba," a large gumtree.)

On the Tooma river north-east of **Welaregang**.

Taken up by James Garland, a brother-in-law of J. A. Broughton in 1838. Within a few years he took George Mair, a relative of Sir John Hay, into partnership. Mair had been in the employ of O'Brien, of Yass,



for some years, and we find his name given as Mair, Meyer, or Mears, indiscriminately. It is quite possible that he represented Sir John Hay in the firm, as in 1847 the lease was in the names of Hay and Chalmers. In 1848, James Garland is credited with holding 31,350 acres here and Hay and Chalmers with selling to Garland and Meyer. Garland appears to have left **Tooma**, for Sydney about 1857, and went into the commission agency business with a Mr. Bingham. Early in this year Mair met with an accident in a water mill they worked on the Tooma river. In 1860, the lease was in the name of Mair. In 1862, a transfer is recorded from R. Napier to Sir John Hay and Arthur Dight. In 1863, a Charles Mair signs the impounding notices, probably as manager. In 1866, Hay and Dight were assessed a rent of £80 on 15,560 acres, supposed to carry 7,000 sheep. The reduced area is due to the assessment excluding the **Meragle** run, previously worked as an outstation. Hay and Dight then sold to Greene and Chomley, and G. H. Greene is gazetted lessee as late as 1875, when the rent was £35, though Mr. Kinleside was interested in 1874 and somewhat later, John Macdonald sold to Macartney, Rolfe and Moorhouse. In 1881, Macartney retired from the firm, and within a few years the run passed to Robertson Bros., and later to H. Watson and Paton Bros.

#### TOOMA FALLS (Co. Selwyn.)

At the head of the Khancoban Creek.

Chiefly rough summer country, Townsend shows it in 1848, as having an area of 23,500 acres, but gives no owner's name.

#### TRIANGLE (Co. Hume).

Lying north of Coreen, the area was 13,240 acres, estimated to carry 640 cattle, and in 1866, Robert Rand held it at a rent of £30. In 1871, it was in the same hands but the rent had been reduced to £15. No further mention of it has been found.

#### TUMBERUMBA (Co. Selwyn). (Hollow sounding.)

First formed by Campbell, of Duntroon, near Queanbeyan, with **Burra** and **Courabyra**, about 1840, it soon passed to George Rees, who by 1848, had been succeeded by Martha Hillas. She then held 44,360 acres, and about 1854, sold to T. H. Mate. In 1866, on the same area,

he was assessed a rent of £35, it being supposed to carry 640 cattle. In 1875, the rent was £75, and is still held by Thomas Mate, junr.

#### UPPER INDI (Co. Selwyn).

South of Indi. This run was formed after 1852, being very rough country. The first lessee is not known. H. L. Prentice held it in 1870, and in 1889, it was in the hands of the Commercial Banking Company.

#### WAGRA, WAGGRA, or WARGRA (Co. Goulburn). (From the cry of a crow.)

East of **Cumberoona**, now known as Wymah.

Taken in 1836 by Cobham and party, which included Spalding and his mates, who had previously attempted a settlement on **Thologolong**, south of the Murray, opposite. Cobham, in later years, joined the Victorian Mounted Police, and about 1876, was appointed Inspector of Stock at Wodonga. Within a year of its formation the party exchanged this run with John Hore for **Bungil**, south of the river. In 1848, John Hore, junr, was gazetted lessee of 30,957 acres. In 1863, it was advertised for sale for non-payment of rent, but Hore still held it in 1865, when the area is given as 34,560 acres, supposed to carry 1,500 cattle. The rent was then £20, with charges £60. During the next few years, considerable selection took place as in 1870, the area was but 25,000 acres, and the rent £40. Hore held the property till his death in 1895, but at that time almost the whole was freehold.

#### WALBUNDRIE (Co. Hume). (Hurt in the hip).

On the Billabong east of **Bulgandra**.

The early history of this run is doubtful. It was probably first occupied by A. A. and Charles Huon, early in the "forties," as it was held by them in 1847, when they sold to Robert Campbell, and in 1849, his manager was named Hunter. In 1850, the records of the Lands Department, give James Warby as lessee. In 1860, T. and W. Kidston held it for Mrs. Kidston, and in 1865, they were assessed a rent of £10, with charges £30 on 16,000 acres, supposed to carry 4,000 sheep. In 1866, the rent was increased to £100. Whittaker and Dunlop purchased in 1868, with 9,300 sheep at £1/1/- per head. Though Whittaker held it, a transfer of it from Kidston and Telford to Swanston and Turnbull (probably for financial



reasons) is gazetted in 1871. Whittaker died in 1876, and Goldsborough and Co. took over the management on behalf of his widow. The rent then had been reduced to £35, much of the area having been selected. William Kiddle next held it and resided there until his death.

**WALLA WALLA** (Co. Hume). (From "wallan," a rock).

On the Billabong, west of **Round Hill**.

Chas. and Aimee Huon certainly stocked part at least of this run, soon after 1840. Hector Norman Simson is said to have been interested in 1846, but in 1847, C. Huon held the lease. By 1848, Hill and Creighton were lessees, and sold to John Sherwin about 1850. In 1859, Messrs Sherwin sold to Messrs Henty, and they, in 1863, to Swift Bros., with 25,000 sheep and 500 cattle. The "Gazette," however, as late as 1866, gives Stephen Henty as lessee of 44,800 acres, estimated to carry 1,500 cattle, and the rent was raised from £100 to £250. In 1873, W. and H. Stitt sold to Menzies and Douglas, from whom it passed to H. and C. Douglas, and a few years after was purchased by the Government for closer settlement.

**WELAREGANG** (Co. Selwyn). (Native name, "Eraire-dang.")

On the Murray at the mouth of the Tooma river.

Taken up by Shelley, of Tumut, before 1839, it was sold in that year to John Hay (afterwards Sir John), who arrived in Australia in 1838. Ham's Official Map, of 1847, shows Gray as holder, but in 1852, Hay was still gazetted as lessee. In 1848, Hay and Chalmers, or Chambers, were lessees of 22,260 acres. In 1848, James Chambers, or Chalmers, offered it for sale with **Indi**. The two runs then carried 1,800 cattle, and 100 horses. No record of sale is found till in the following year Basil Gray purchased it with 3,000 cattle for £23,000.

As an instance of the delay frequently occurring in the registration of transfers, we may mention that only in 1860 was the transfer from Hay and Chambers to James Chambers gazetted. In 1865, the area is given as 13,440 acres estimated to carry 1,300 cattle, at a rent and charges of £80. In 1868, Gray sold to Graham and McDonald, from whom it was transferred to McDonald and De Salis, but in 1871, Basil Gray re-purchased it. At this time the rent had been reduced by selection to £23,

and when Gray sold in 1882, to Louis Huon, was only £10. In 1884, Paton Bros. bought the property, and it still remains with that family.

#### WELAREGANG NORTH (Co. Selwyn).

The north-western portion of the original **Welaregang** run.

Townsend's Map, of 1852, shows this run as a separate holding, but gives no owner's name. It remained an outstation of **Welaregang** till after the re-purchase of that run by Basil Gray, when he arranged an exchange with Messrs J. J., C. and E. Crowe, for selections held by them near the homestead. It is still held by some of their descendants.

#### WOOMARGAMA (Co. Goulburn). ("Wombariga," native cherry.)

Between **Mullengandra** and **Ten Mile Creek**.

Formed by McKenzie and Wylde, part owners of **Kergunnia**, in 1838, or 1839, they sold in 1848, to John Dickson. He was succeeded in 1859 by Thomas Mitchell, and his stepson, Ogle James Moore, placed in charge. In 1865, Mitchell was assessed on 39,870 acres, estimated to carry 9,000 sheep, a rent, with charges, of £97. After his death in 1881, much selection having taken place, his representatives sold to Mrs. Splatt. In 1910, she sold to Capt. Clarke.

#### YARRA YARRA (Co. Goulburn). (Plenty red gum trees by one authority; ever flowing, by J. J. Bayliss).

The "Gazette" of December, 1836, contains the application of the Rev. J. J. Therry for a lease of this run. It then covered a very large area, and was known for some years as **The Billabong** run. The first manager was named Cunningham, a son of the first owner of **Carabost** run. In 1837, it is recorded that there was no station between it and Tarcutta Creek. Therry held it till 1857, when he transferred to D. P. Keogh. George and James Day were associated with Keogh in the run, and sold it in 1860, to James MacLaurin, then carrying on the business of a miller, in Albury. MacLaurin had been one of the first to overland with cattle to Adelaide. He built the "Fanny Ceres" flour mill, in Albury in 1851. In 1861, MacLaurin, in common with the owners of adjoining runs, suffered a very heavy loss by an outbreak of









pleuro-pneumonia among his cattle. No less than 12,000 head are stated to have been slaughtered in the attempt to stop the epidemic. Over 4,000 were killed and burnt in one gully, and the odoriferous smoke of the fires is said to have been noticed fifty miles away. In 1865, the area is given as 64,000 acres, and the rent £247. This was later increased to £415. The property has remained in the same family, and is now largely freehold and subdivided into several substantial holdings.

#### YARRARA (Co. Goulburn).

This run, also known as **Yarrara Creek**, or **Marrara**, is situate north of **Coppabella**. Townsend's Map, of 1850, has T. Ford, late F. W. Vyner as lessee of 15,292 acres. In 1865, Robinson and Armstrong paid a rent of £26, on an estimated carrying capacity of 500 cattle. In 1871, J. Robinson, junr., and Armstrong still held it.

#### YELLOWIN (Co. Selwyn).

Situate at the extreme north-east corner of the county.

First taken up by Thomas Wilkinson, the area in 1848, is given as 17,000 acres in the name of John Wilkinson, a son of the first owner. In 1854, he and his brother, T. W. Wilkinson, paid a rent of £10. In 1863, the lease stood in the names of J. and J. Wilkinson. In 1866, they were assessed on 17,000 acres, carrying 400 cattle. The run is still held by members of the family.

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